

THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XVI.—NEW SERIES, No. 438.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 1854.

[PRICE 6d.]



TEMPERANCE LINE OF
PACKETS from LONDON to AUSTRALIA, calling at Plymouth.—For PORT PHILLIP and SYDNEY, calling off Adelaide with passengers and their luggage only, the beautiful new ship HISTORIA, A 1, 850 tons burthen, T. R. MOWATT, Commander, to sail March 15, lying in the East India Docks. She offers unusual advantages to passengers, having upwards of 7 feet height between decks, and great width of beam. The ventilation will be made most perfect, as, in addition to the ordinary appliances, she will be fitted with the ventilating apparatus recommended by Mrs. Chisholm. Baths and wash-houses will be erected on deck, and a library of 200 volumes will be supplied for the use of the passengers. A minister and an experienced surgeon will accompany the vessel. Passage-money for single persons and families 20 guineas. A few open berths for single men, at 18 guineas. For freight or passage apply to Griffiths, Newcombe, and Co., 27, Rood-lane, Fenchurch-street, London.

WANTED, a JUNIOR or an IMPROVER
in the general Drapery.—Apply, post-paid, to J. KIRBY, Buckingham.

WANTED immediately, an APPRENTICE
to the General Drapery and Clothing Business. A moderate Premium required.—For further particulars apply to RICHARD WHIBLEY, draper, Sittingbourne, Kent.

TO DRAPERS' ASSISTANTS.—Wanted,
immediately, a JUNIOR ASSISTANT who has had about four or five years experience.—Address, Mr. W. FAGG, Folkestone.

TO PARENTS AND GUARDIANS.—
E. PARSONS, Draper, Gloucester, is in want of a respectable Youth as an APPRENTICE. A moderate Premium required.

TO PARENTS and GUARDIANS.—
THOMAS LEE, Chemist, Druggist, and Grocer, High-street, Wem, Salop, is in want of a steady active youth as an APPRENTICE. A moderate Premium will be required.

TO GROCERS.—WANTED, in the course
of a few weeks, a SITUATION in the retail trade. Respectable references given.—Address, pre-paid, T. P. O., Nonconformist Office, 69, Fleet-street, London.

TO GROCERS and PROVISION DEALERS.—WANTED, by a respectable young man, a
SITUATION as ASSISTANT at the counter. Good references can be given. Age 20.—Address, W. J. White, Roothing, near Dunmow, Essex.

TO GROCERS.—A highly respectable
young man, of strictly moral conduct, is desirous of meeting with an engagement as ASSISTANT. Has had good experience in the general business; also, a perfect knowledge of the town provision trade. Is of good address, and can be well recommended.—A. B., care of Mr. Steel, 2, Spring Gardens, Charing Cross.

TO DRAPERS' ASSISTANTS.—Wanted,
about the 20th of April, an Experienced and Industrious YOUNG MAN for a respectable trade in a Country Town. A permanent situation.—Apply to JAMES CHAUNDLER, Odham, Hants.

TO CONFECTIONERS, BREAD and
BISCUIT BAKERS.—A YOUNG PERSON is desirous of a Situation in the above businesses. Reference will be given to her present employer, with whom she has lived nearly two years.—Address, L. B., Mr. Robinson's, confectioner, Guildford.

TO HATTERS, HOSIERS, OUT-
FITTERS, &c.—To be Disposed of, a GENUINE CONCERN in the above branches, in a first-class situation, and in one of the most fashionable and flourishing towns in England. The above presents a fine opening for a YOUNG MAN of ability, or for a Gentleman in delicate health, for whom residence in a mild and salubrious climate might be desirable.—For particulars apply, by letter only, addressed to A. 3 A., care of Messrs. Welch and Margeson, 17, Cheapside, London.

TO THE LEATHER TRADE and
OTHERS.—A practical Currier, carrying on an old Established Business in the above line, with an Extensive Cash Connection, is desirous of meeting with a PARTNER who can command £1,000, and who, with active business habits, combines a knowledge of bookkeeping.—Reference is permitted to be made to Messrs HOOPER and PARKINSON, leather factors, 1, Seething-lane, London.

A RESPECTABLE YOUNG PERSON,
who has not been out before, is desirous of obtaining a SITUATION in any light business, or in a respectable family in any capacity not menial. A Christian family preferred. Satisfactory references can be given.—Address, X. Y. Z., 8, Sherborne-street, Downham-road, Islington.

TO LET, with immediate possession, a
COTTAGE in a retired situation; containing a Parlour, Sitting-room, three Bedrooms, and Kitchen, within five minutes' walk of a Railway Station. Rent £15 per annum.—Apply to Mr. J. W. SKIRROW, Brentford Butts, Middlesex.

A BRITISH SCHOOLMISTRESS
WANTED for the South Islington and Pentonville British Schools. A Certificated Teacher is desired, as there are several Pupil Teachers in the Schools.—Apply by letter, stating age, experience, &c., addressed to Mr. HUGH OWEN, Barnsbury Park, London.

MEDICAL.—WANTED, by a Surgeon in
Birmingham, residing near the Queen's and Sydenham Colleges, an educated Youth, as an APPRENTICE.—Application to be made to Mr. JAMES GRANGER, bookseller, 40, Islington, Birmingham.

AS HOUSEKEEPER, or COMPANION
to an INVALID LADY or GENTLEMAN.—A Person, who has been so occupied for twelve years (aged Thirty), now disengaged, is desirous of a situation. She is a member of a Congregational church, and can have respectable recommendations.—Address, A. D., at Mr. White's, Post-office, Ponder's End, Middlesex.

LORD'S DAY MORNING EARLY
LECTURE. Instituted in the year of the glorious Revolution, 1688.—A SERMON will be preached at NEW BROAD-STREET CHAPEL, City, on Sabbath morning the 26th of March instant, by the Rev. CHARLES STOEVL. Divine Service to commence at 7, and close at 8 o'clock.

EAGLE-STREET CHAPEL, RED-LION
SQUARE, HOLBORN.—The Committee appointed for the re-building of the above ancient Sanctuary beg to inform their friends, that the first list of contributions and promises will be published the first week in April. Those friends who will kindly assist them to accomplish this desirable object, will oblige by forwarding their subscriptions, or intentions, to either of the following gentlemen before the close of the present month:—
Mr. H. CRASSWELLER, Treasurer, 36, Welbeck-street, Marylebone.
Rev. FRANCIS WILLS, Secretary, 4, Granville-square, Pentonville.

Mr. JOHN SHOVELLER, Assistant Secretary, 21, Lisle-street, Leicester-square.
Mr. PETER BROAD, 29, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden.
Mr. RICHARD CARTWRIGHT, 57, Chancery-lane.—Or of the Deacons.

Mr. THOMAS MERRETT, 7, St. John's-square, Clerkenwell;
Mr. JOHN BURBIDGE, 46, Rosoman-street, Clerkenwell, and
Mr. WILLIAM PARKER, Houghton-street, Clare Market.

Or paid to the account of Eagle-street Chapel Building Fund, at Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, Tritton, & Co., Lombard-street. Information being sent to Rev. Francis Wills, Secretary, as above; and all Post Office Orders are requested to be made payable at the General Post Office, to Francis Wills, when printed receipts will be immediately forwarded.

A PUBLIC MEETING of the FRIENDS
of the NORTH LONDON INDUSTRIAL HOME for DESTITUTE BOYS not convicted of Crime, 16, Bryan-street, Copenhagen-street, Caledonian-road, will be held at BAKER'S ROOMS, 107, Upper-street, Islington, on FRIDAY, March 24th, 1854, when a Report of the first Half-Year's operations will be read. The Chair to be taken at Seven o'clock, by ALDERMAN CHALLIS, M.P.

Rev. W. Vincent, M.A., Incumbent of Trinity Church, Cloudeston-square; Rev. Theophilus Sauley, M.A., Incumbent of All Saints'; Rev. A. L. Courtenay, D.D., Incumbent of Saint James', Pentonville; Rev. R. Maguire, B.A., Clerical Secretary of the Islington Protestant Institute; Rev. James Cohen, M.A., Chaplain of the City Prison, Holloway; Rev. John Weir; Rev. B. S. Hollis; Rev. A. J. Morris; Joseph Payne, Esq., Barrister-at-Law, and other Gentlemen, are expected to address the Meeting.

HOME FOR CONFIRMED INVALIDS,
ALBION TERRACE, CANONBURY SQUARE, IS-LINGTON.—The Friends of this Charity are informed, that the Sale of the Patients' Work, and Fancy Articles, recently held in January, having been unsuccessful from the unusual inclemency of the weather, the Committee have decided to RENEW the SALE on the 28th and 29th of the present month (March). The Funds of the Home need assistance, as the increased price of provisions and fuel have materially diminished its resources; they therefore solicit contributions towards the sale, and the presence of the Friends of the Institution on that occasion.

ENTRANCE, ONE SHILLING, which may be deducted from the Purchases. CHILDREN FREE.—Open from ELEVEN to FIVE.

SCRIPTURE-READER TO TURKEY.—
SOLDIERS' FRIEND SOCIETY, instituted for the Purpose of Diffusing Religious Knowledge throughout the British Army. PATRON.—The Right Hon. the Lord ROBERT GROSVENOR, M.P. Office—15, EXETER HALL, STRAND, LONDON.

Several friends having suggested to the Committee the desirableness of sending Scripture-Readers to Turkey to labour among the British troops, they have decided on sending out one (and others to follow), as soon as funds can be obtained to meet the expenses. They have selected, as the first, Mr. Ray, who was himself formerly in the army, and is, consequently, thoroughly acquainted with the habits and ways of the men. His visits among them in the distribution of the Scriptures and tracts have been most cordially welcomed by the officers and men, and attended, there is every reason to believe, with the Divine blessing.

During the past year, the Society's Missionaries have been actively engaged, having held several meetings and distributed upwards of 25,000 Tracts among the men.

While the bodies of the Soldiers are being cared for, the Committee trust that Friends will come forward and enable them to care for their souls.

Sums received since last advertisement:—
Mrs. Longmore £1 1 0 Lord R. Grosvenor,
Lady Carnegie 1 0 0 M.P. £1 0 0
Coll. by Miss Kennedy, J. H. B., per "Record" 0 5 0
Lowton, near War- Coll. by Miss Harrison—
rington 5 5 0 Misses Roberts 5 5 0

FOR SCRIPTURE READER TO TURKEY.
Duchess of Manchester £2 0 0
Mrs. N. Dobbs 1 10 0
A Constant Reader of the "Record" 0 10 0
Miss Emily Wildman 0 10 0

Contributions will be thankfully received by the Treasurer, G. Burns, Esq., 17, Porteus-road, Paddington; by the Hon. Secretary, Mr. W. A. Blake, at the Office, 15, Exeter-hall; by Messrs. Nisbet, Berners-street, Oxford-street; and at the Office of the Record.

SOCIETY FOR THE
LIBERATION OF RELIGION FROM STATE-
PATRONAGE AND CONTROL.

IN accordance with the resolution adopted at the Conference held in November last, the Committee of this Society are engaged in raising the annual income to £5,000, by annual subscriptions for the next three years. They have pleasure in announcing, as the result of the Conference, and of their efforts in the metropolis and neighbourhood, the following list of

| ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR THREE YEARS. | | |
|--|----|-------|
| | £ | s. d. |
| Samuel Morley, Esq. | 50 | 0 0 |
| Frank Crossley, Esq., M.P. | 40 | 0 0 |
| John Crossley, Esq. | 25 | 0 0 |
| Thomas Barnes, Esq., M.P. | 20 | 0 0 |
| James Kershaw, Esq., M.P. | 20 | 0 0 |
| Mr. Alderman Wire | 10 | 0 0 |
| William Edwards, Esq. | 50 | 0 0 |
| Dr. Epps | 10 | 10 0 |
| James Bell, Esq., M.P. | 10 | 0 0 |
| Lawrence Heyworth Esq., M.P. | 10 | 0 0 |
| Edward Miall, Esq., M.P. | 5 | 0 0 |
| Rev. J. Harris, D.D., New College | 5 | 0 0 |
| David Davies, Esq., Wigmore-street | 5 | 0 0 |
| Charles Curling, Esq., Clapham-common | 5 | 0 0 |
| G. T. Kemp, Esq., Tavistock-square | 5 | 5 0 |
| Wm. Johnson, Esq., Crayford | 10 | 10 0 |
| Travers Buxton, Esq., Champion-hill | 10 | 10 0 |
| James Spicer, Esq. | 10 | 0 0 |
| Edward Swaine, Esq. | 5 | 0 0 |
| Samuel Underhill, Esq., Hackney | 5 | 0 0 |
| William Underhill, Esq., Hackney | 5 | 0 0 |
| Samuel Viney, Esq., Clapton | 3 | 3 0 |
| Messrs. Wells and Perry, Chelmsford | 50 | 0 0 |
| George Bayley, Esq., London | 20 | 0 0 |
| Stafford Allen, Esq., ditto | 10 | 0 0 |
| Henry Thompson, Esq., St. John's-wood | 2 | 2 0 |
| Mr. Richard Crossley, Stockwell | 2 | 2 0 |
| Mr. J. Moore, Upton | 2 | 2 0 |
| Algernon Wells, Esq. | 1 | 1 0 |
| Dr. Woollaston, Gloucester-place | 1 | 0 0 |
| Henry Vincent, Esq. | 2 | 2 0 |
| Mr. H. S. Skeats, Sydenham | 2 | 2 0 |
| Rev. F. Trestrail | 2 | 2 0 |
| J. F. Bontems, Esq., Hemel Hempstead | 2 | 2 0 |
| W. W. Drake, Esq., Walthamstow | 5 | 5 0 |
| Joseph Cooper, Esq., Stoke Newington | 10 | 10 0 |
| Rev. John Burnet | 1 | 1 0 |
| Rev. I. Duxsey, Brixton | 2 | 2 0 |
| Mr. Allam, Wapping | 2 | 0 0 |
| Mr. Prior, Dalston | 1 | 0 0 |
| Mr. J. A. Thomas, Kingsland | 1 | 0 0 |
| N. J. St. John's-wood | 1 | 0 0 |
| Mr. J. Hoppe, Bishopsgate-street | 2 | 2 0 |
| Mr. W. Tabor, ditto | 2 | 2 0 |
| Mr. H. Batchelor, Mark-lane | 2 | 2 0 |
| Mr. J. Howard, Nicholas-lane | 2 | 2 0 |
| Mr. R. S. Dixon, Lambeth | 1 | 1 0 |
| Mr. E. Dixon, ditto | 1 | 1 0 |
| Mr. Edward Carlile, Brixton | 3 | 3 0 |
| A Friend, Gracechurch-street | 5 | 0 0 |
| Rev. S. S. England, Walthamstow | 1 | 0 0 |
| Mrs. J. C. Williams, Islington | 1 | 1 0 |
| Mrs. Gairdner, Kensington | 2 | 2 0 |
| Miss Gairdner, Kensington | 2 | 2 0 |
| Mr. William Allen, Whitechapel | 2 | 2 0 |
| A Friend, per Treasurer | 2 | 2 0 |
| Mr. C. E. Mudie, New Oxford-street | 3 | 3 0 |
| Mr. H. W. Davison, Basinghall-street | 2 | 2 0 |
| Mr. Jesse Hobson, Moorgate-street | 1 | 1 0 |
| C. J. Foster, Esq., L.L.D. | 10 | 0 0 |
| H. R. Ellington, Esq. | 10 | 0 0 |
| Thomas Box, Esq., Stoke Newington | 5 | 0 0 |
| S. Lucas, Esq., ditto | 5 | 0 0 |
| Charles Gilpin, Esq., ditto | 5 | 5 0 |
| Rev. J. Kennedy, Stepney | 1 | 1 0 |
| Rev. J. Waddington, Southwark | 1 | 0 0 |
| Rev. B. H. Cooper, Barnsbury | 1 | 1 0 |
| E. Clarke, Esq., Walthamstow | 3 | 0 0 |
| J. F. M., per J. Cook, jun., Esq. | 5 | 0 0 |
| Mr. J. Cunningham, Brentford | 5 | 5 0 |
| Mrs. Vaizey, Camberwell | 1 | 0 0 |
| Miss Brewin, Camberwell | 2 | 0 0 |
| Mr. E. Rogers, Spitalfields | 1 | 0 0 |
| Mr. R. J. Pence, Islington | 1 | 0 0 |
| Mr. Appleford, ditto | 1 | 1 0 |
| Mr. C. H. Eli, ditto | 5 | 0 0 |
| Mr. J. Templeton ditto | 1 | 1 0 |
| Mr. J. Jones, ditto | 1 | 1 0 |
| Mr. J. Sheeres, ditto | 1 | 1 0 |
| Mr. G. Lea, ditto | 1 | 0 0 |
| Mr. Roberts, ditto | 1 | 0 0 |
| Mr. John Jones, ditto | 1 | 1 0 |
| Mr. A. S. Braden, ditto | 2 | 2 0 |
| Mr. R. S. Bendall, ditto | 5 | 5 0 |
| Mr. Morgan, ditto | 1 | 1 0 |
| Mr. Coumbe, ditto | 1 | 1 0 |
| Mr. Steplings, ditto | 3 | 3 0 |
| Mr. E. S. Pryce, Millwall | 2 | 2 0 |
| Mr. Jones, Denmark-hill | 2 | 2 0 |
| Mr. A. Sari, Cheapside | 1 | 1 0 |
| Mr. J. Harris, 11, Tooley-street | 1 | 1 0 |
| Mr. R. Harris, ditto | 5 | 5 0 |
| Mr. Thos. Scrutton, jun., Stepney | 1 | 1 0 |
| Mr. Hengiston, Wood-street | 1 | 1 0 |
| Mr. Hillier, Notting-hill | 1 | 0 0 |
| Mr. W. Collins, Oxford-street | 2 | 2 0 |
| Mr. M. Kenworthy, Broad-street | 2 | 2 0 |
| Mr. J. Hill, Clapham | 2 | 2 0 |
| Mr. James Medwin, Gracechurch-street | 1 | 1 0 |
| G. Gould, Esq., Loughton | 2 | 2 0 |
| Mr. T. Paulin, Mile-end | 2 | 2 0 |
| John Doulton, Esq., Lambeth | 5 | 0 0 |
| John Doulton, Esq., jun., Lambeth | 2 | 0 0 |
| Mr. B. A. Tomkins, jun., Borough | 2 | 2 0 |
| R. H. Penman, Esq., Bucklersbury | 2 | 2 0 |
| Mr. J. D. Jones, Cheapside | 1 | 1 0 |
| Mr. A. Templeton, Lec. | 1 | 1 0 |
| Mr. R. Theobald, Paternoster-row | 1 | 0 0 |
| Messrs. Cockshaw | 2 | 2 0 |
| Mr. Griffiths, Bow-lane | 1 | 0 0 |
| Mr. Ingram, Beech-street | 2 | 2 0 |

SARL'S ARGENTINE SILVER PLATE

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MANUFACTORY, 18, POULTRY (near the Mansion House), LONDON.

THIS unrivalled production continues to give the same satisfaction as when first introduced by SARL and SONS, ten years ago. From its intrinsic value and brilliant appearance, it far surpasses all other substitutes for solid silver. A new and magnificent stock has just been completed for the present season, to which public inspection is respectfully invited. It comprises SPOONS and FORKS, COFFER DISHES and COVERS, DISH COVERS, PERGUES and CANDELABRAS with beautiful figures and classical designs, TEA and COFFEE EQUIPAGES, CRUST FRAMES, CAGE BASKETS, CANDLESTICKS, SALVERS, TEA TRAYS, DECANTER STANDS, LIQUEUR FRAMES, TEA URNS and KETTLES, SOUP and SAUCE TUREENS, with every article requisite for the Dinner, Tea, or Breakfast Service. Pamphlets, containing drawings and prices of all the articles, gratis, and sent postage free to all parts of the kingdom. Any article may be had separately as a sample.

SOLE INVENTORS AND MANUFACTURERS,

SARL & SONS, 18, POULTRY (near the Mansion House, London.)

GOLD AND SILVER WATCHES.

SARL and SONS, WATCH MANUFACTURERS, 18, POULTRY (near the Mansion House), invite attention to their new and very extensive STOCK of GOLD and SILVER WATCHES. The patterns are of the latest style, and the movements of the most highly-finished description. Every make can be had. The following prices will convey an outline of the Stock, combining economy with quality:—

| Gold Cases and Dials. | Silver Cases. |
|---|---------------|
| Watches of the Horizontal make, jewelled in four holes, maintaining power, 1st size..... | £ 4. 0. 0 |
| Ditto, 2nd size..... | £ 3. 10. 0 |
| Ditto, 3rd size..... | £ 3. 0. 0 |
| Patent lever movements, detached escapements, jewelled in four or six holes, 2nd size..... | £ 9. 9. 0 |
| Ditto with the flat, fashionable style, with the most highly-finished movements, jewelled in ten extra holes, 3rd size..... | £ 14. 14. 0 |

A written warranty for accurate performance is given with every watch, and a twelve months' trial allowed. A very extensive and splendid assortment of fine gold neck-chains; charged according to the weight of sovereigns.

A pamphlet, containing a list of the prices of the various articles in gold and silver, may be had gratis.—Address,

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| | £ | s. | d. |
|---|----|----|----|
| Mr. Humphreys, Wandsworth-road .. | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Mr. B. Dixon, Bow .. | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Mr. J. Hooper, Millwall .. | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| Mr. Outhwaite, East Smithfield .. | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Mr. Bains, Tower-street .. | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Mr. Benson, Cornhill .. | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Mr. I. J. Payn, Aldermanbury .. | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Mr. G. Long, Clapham .. | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Mr. P. Crellin, St. George-street .. | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Mr. P. Crellin, Jun., Hackney .. | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Mr. W. C. Powell, Chiswell-street .. | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Mr. Connell, Cheapside .. | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| William Shaen, Esq., Bedford-row .. | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Thomas Wilcox, Esq., Millwall .. | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Mr. Wm. Freeman, 69, Fleet-street .. | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| G. Carne, Esq., Clapton .. | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Mr. J. Cook, Jun., Holloway .. | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Mr. A. Holborn, Mincing-lane .. | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Mr. J. Webb, Stamford-street .. | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Mr. Kitchner, Peckham .. | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Mr. Dexter, Knightsbridge .. | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Mr. Joseph Child, Doctors' Commons .. | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| L. A. C. .. | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Mr. J. Belsey, Rochester .. | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Messrs. Feanings, London-bridge .. | 10 | 10 | 0 |
| R. Bousfield, Esq., Kennington .. | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| J. Y. Powell, Esq., Peckham .. | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| Rev. A. Good, Hackney .. | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Mr. A. T. Bowser, Cheapside .. | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Mr. A. Hartman, Holborn .. | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Mr. William Price, Hornsey .. | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Mr. Henry Bidgood, Vigo-street .. | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Mr. Henry Anelay, New Cross .. | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Mr. W. Walton, Gracechurch-street .. | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| E. C. Whitehurst, Esq., Guildhall-chambers .. | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Messrs. Buck and Straker .. | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Mr. Cook Baines, Suffolk-place .. | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Dr. Thomas Price .. | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Mr. W. Nathan, Limehouse .. | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| H. S. Foster, Esq., Cambridge .. | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| Michael Foster, Esq., Cambridge .. | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| Rev. W. Robinson, Cambridge .. | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Mr. Dickes, Old Fish-street .. | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Mr. J. S. Miller, Watling-street .. | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| Mr. George Brown, Limehouse .. | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| S. R. Patteson, Esq., Lincoln's-inn-fields .. | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| T. T. Carwen, Esq., Clapton .. | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| John Woolaston, Esq., Basinghall-street .. | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Mr. Hagell .. | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Mr. R. Gamman, Bethnal-green .. | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| A. S. Ayton, Esq., Grafton-street .. | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| Wm. Struthers, Esq., Brompton .. | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| George W. Alexander, Esq. .. | 10 | 10 | 0 |
| Rev. Wm. Bean, Tulse-hill .. | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| A Yorkshireman who does not pay income tax .. | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Mr. E. S. Robinson, Bristol .. | 10 | 10 | 0 |
| Rev. J. J. Waite, Hereford .. | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| A Tenant-Farmer, Bucks .. | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Rev. W. J. Cross, Bristol .. | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Rev. Dr. Agworth, Bradford .. | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Rev. J. Fletcher, Christchurch .. | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| Rev. J. Gordon, Coventry .. | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Mr. W. H. Michael, Swansea .. | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| George Rough, Esq., Dundee .. | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| D. Macallan, Esq., Aberdeen .. | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Thomas Russell, Esq., Edinburgh .. | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Mr. S. Grundy, Luton .. | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| Mr. J. Baker, Andover .. | 5 | 0 | 0 |

DONATIONS FOR THIS YEAR.

| | £ | s. | d. |
|-------------------------------------|----|----|----|
| William Biggs, Esq., M.P. .. | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| Mrs. Forbes, Camberwell .. | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Mr. G. Simmonds, Whitechapel .. | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Mr. Thomas Box, Stoke Newington .. | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| Mr. John Powell, Islington .. | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| Mr. S. W. Ridley, Newgate-street .. | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| J. A. N. Oxford-street .. | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Mr. J. Belsey, Rochester .. | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Mr. R. S. Dixon, Lambeth .. | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| Mrs. Elliott, Upper Clapton .. | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| A Lady, per Treasurer .. | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| Francis Bennock, Esq. .. | 1 | 1 | 0 |

The Committee earnestly request additions, both from Town and Country, without delay.

It is requested that remittances may be made payable to the Treasurer.

WILLIAM EDWARDS, Treasurer.
J. CARVELL WILLIAMS, Secretary.

41, Ludgate-hill, London.

KING WILLIAM STREET ROOMS,

24 and 25, KING WILLIAM STREET, CHANCERY CROSS. DIORAMIC LECTURES, DAILY, at 3 o'clock.

1. TOMBS OF EGYPT—Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.
2. NINEVEH (THE BURIED CITY)—Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.

Admission, 1s. Reserved Seats, 2s. Children, half-price.

DIORAMAS for the MILLION every Evening at 8 o'clock.

Subjects:—North American Indians—Palestine—Egypt—Popular Natural History—Nineveh.

Admission 2d., Reserved Seats 6d.

APPRENTICESHIP SOCIETY.—The

Half-Yearly General Meeting of the Governors, Members, and Subscribers of this Society, will be held at the CONGREGATIONAL LIBRARY, Blomfield-street, Finsbury Circus, on TUESDAY, March 28th, 1854, at Eleven o'clock, when FOUR CANDIDATES will be elected to the benefit of the Institution.

By order of the Committee,

I. VALE MUMFERY, } Hon. Secs.
W. WELLS KILPIN, }

The Poll will commence at Eleven, and close at One o'clock precisely.

BANK OF DEPOSIT,

No. 8, Pall-mall East, and 7, St. Martin's-place, Trafalgar-square, London. Established A.D. 1834.

INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS may be opened Daily, with Capital of any amount. Interest payable in January and July.

PETER MORRISON, Managing Director.

Prospectuses and Forms sent free on application.

HOUSEHOLDERS' AND GENERAL

LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.—Money received on Deposits at 5 per cent. interest, payable half-yearly in April and October.

RICHARD HODSON, Secretary.
15 and 16, Adam-street, Adelphi, London.

NATIONAL FREEHOLD LAND

SOCIETY.
Valid Shares Drawn—Week ending March 16:—

11,889, 46,912, 73,634, 58,180, 53,576, 53,320, 64,073, 53,264, 6,360, 67,675, 52,587, 77,604, 60,251, 40,685, 56,803, 41,734, 69,392, 31,930, 60,078, 55,169, 51,792—37 44,938, 61,929, 32,439, 68,101, 35,127, 10,047, 36,128, 37,932, 28,756, 45,734, 59,313, 65,444, 35,128, 79,217, 66,558, 48,307, 71,238, 29,998, 37,647, 48,733, 30,872, 67,535, 50,347, 48,965—64, 76,537, 73,888, 38,894, 47,826, 50,247, 45,008—17, 75,736, 71,651.

The shares numbered, 24,585, 3,172, 50,706, 20,526, 62,027, 40,461, 74,288, 40,765, 39,711, 64,601, 54,721, 36,005, 53,151, 55,510, 63,446, 74,284, 49,696, 49,588, 2,244, 9,656, 33,462, 44,297, 57,618, 54,952, 38,880, were also drawn; but as the subscriptions were in arrear, the holders lost the benefit of the drawing.

Copies of the Prospectus, Rules, and last Annual Report, may be obtained at the office, or by post, gratis.

W. E. WHITTINGHAM, Secretary.
14, Moorgate-street, March 18, 1854.

THE REFORM FREEHOLD LAND

AND BUILDING SOCIETY AND BANK FOR DEPOSITS,
147, Cheapside, entrance in Foster-lane. Enrolled under 6 and 7 Wm. 4, chap. 32.

Freehold Land Shares, £30. Subscriptions, 4s. per month for 124 months. Building Society Shares £100. Subscriptions, 10s. per month for twelve and a-half years, or 20s. per month for seven and a quarter years. No entrance fees. No quarterage.

This Society disclaims all party objects, and all interference with the political opinions of its members. Small sums received daily in the Bank for deposits, and interest at 4 per cent., calculated monthly, allowed thereon.

Shares advanced in full at 5 per cent., to purchase or build dwellings or other freehold or leasehold estates. Interest on payments in advance.

The management of the Society and the appointment of the directors and officers are entirely under the control of the members.

Shares, prospectuses, and further information may be obtained daily at the offices of the Society.

The first Quarterly Meeting of members will take place at the Society's rooms on Monday evening, 27th March, 1854, at six o'clock precisely.

By order, W. GURLEY SMITH, Secretary.

London, 147, Cheapside, entrance in Foster-lane.

THE REFORM FREEHOLD LAND

AND BUILDING SOCIETY. ONE THOUSAND POUNDS

will be ballotted for among all applicants for advances in THE REFORM FREEHOLD LAND AND BUILDING SOCIETY, on Monday evening, March 27, 1854, at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, City, after the public meeting. Chair to be taken at eight o'clock. All shares taken up on or before that day may participate.

Every information may be obtained at the Society's Offices, 147 Cheapside.

By order, W. GURLEY SMITH, Secretary.

THE ACHILLES INSURANCE

COMPANY.

CAPITAL, £100,000, in 10,000 Shares of £10 each.

With power to increase to One Million.

DIRECTORS.

Sir Henry Winston Barron, Bart., Chairman.

Col. Lethian S. Dickson, Deputy Chairman.

Adolphus Baker, Esq.

David Birrell, Esq.

T. Houghton Burrell, Esq.

William Court, Esq.

Captain J. Bishop Culpeper.

Henry Francis Home, Esq.

The advantages offered by this Company will be seen on an investigation of its Rates of Premium and the terms of its Loan business. It offers to the assured the security of a large subscribed capital, combined with all the advantages of a Mutual Assurance Office, eighty per cent. of the profits being divided amongst the Policy-holders every five years. The following are other characteristic features of the Company.

THE RATES OF PREMIUM are based upon the latest and most approved corrected tables of mortality, and will, therefore, be found lower than those adopted by other and earlier institutions.

POLICIES ARE INDISPENSABLE.

NO CHARGE is made for POLICY STAMPS or MEDICAL FEES.

THE ASSURED ARE ALLOWED TO TRAVEL in any country in Europe without extra charge.

ONE-THIRD of the Premiums on Policies of £500 and upwards is allowed to remain unpaid, and continue as a claim on the Policy.

POLICIES ARE NOT FORFEITED if the Premiums are not paid when due.

LOANS are granted to Policy-holders and others on approved Personal Security, and on every description of Freehold, Leasehold, and Copyhold Property. The advances are made on liberal terms and a Policy of Insurance on the borrower's life to the amount only of the sum borrowed is required.

For the convenience of the WORKING CLASSES, Policies are issued as low as £20, at the same rates of Premium as larger Policies.

Premiums may be paid quarterly, half-yearly, or annually.

The following are the Rates of Premium on the classes of Policies generally taken out:—

WHOLE OF LIFE.

Annual Premium for the Assurance of £100 on the Whole of Life with Profits.

Age 20 30 40 50 60

Premium £ s. d. £ s. d. £ s. d. £ s. d. £ s. d. £ s. d.

1 18 3 2 7 9 3 3 2 4 10 9 6 18 5

Any other Particulars, or Rates of Premium, required for any contingency, can be obtained of the Agents of the Company, or at the Chief Office.

HUGH BROWN TAPLIN, Secretary.

Chief Office, 25, Cannon-street, London.

NATIONAL GUARDIAN ASSURANCE

SOCIETY. Chief Office—19, MOORGATE-STREET, London.—The Directors of this Company have much pleasure in informing their Clients and the Public, that they have opened Branch Offices at 8, Newhall-street, BIRMINGHAM; Albion Chambers, BRISTOL; 84, Lord-street, LIVERPOOL; 65, King-street, MANCHESTER; 1, Dean-street, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE; 7, Alter Wandrahm, HAMBURG; and 95, Queen-street, PORTSEA.

Intending assurers should send for a copy of the last year's report.

JESSE HOBSON, Secretary.

TEMPERANCE PERMANENT LAND

and BUILDING SOCIETY. Offices:—Commercial Chambers (Belle Sauvage), Ludgate-hill, London.

PRESIDENT.

Lawrence Heyworth, Esq., M.P.

TRUSTEES.

George Cruikshank, Esq. | George Charles Campbell, Esq.

Frederick Grosjean, Esq.

Shares, £30 each; Entrance Fee, 1s.; Monthly Subscription, 4s.; Transfer Fee, 1s. per share.

Shares may be taken at any time without arrears.

Interest allowed on complete shares.

Profits divided among Investing Members.

No Postage, or Incidental Fees.

Borrowing Members charged simply five per cent. per annum, upon the amount owing each year.

Estates open to every holder of shares, whether completed or uncompleted.

Subscriptions are due the first Monday in every Month, between the hours of 6 and 8 o'clock, but may be paid at any time prior at the Office, between 10 and 4, where Prospectuses and Shares may be obtained.

H. J. PHILLIPS, Secretary.

LIVERPOOL and LONDON FIRE and

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

CAPITAL—£2,000,000.—ESTABLISHED IN 1836.

(Empowered by Acts of Parliament.)

OFFICES.

37, Castle-street, Liverpool; and 20 and 21, Poultry, London.

TRUSTEES.

Sir Thomas Bernard Birch, Baronet.

Adam Hodgson, Esq.

Samuel Henry Thompson, Esq.

DIRECTORS IN LIVERPOOL.

CHAIRMAN—Thomas Brocklebank, Esq.

DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN—Jos. C. Ewart, Esq., and Frances Haywood, Esq.

SECRETARY—Swinton Boulton, Esq.

DIRECTORS IN LONDON.

CHAIRMAN—Matthew Forster, Esq.

DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN—George Frederick Young, Esq.

RESIDENT SECRETARY—Benjamin Henderson, Esq.

CAPITAL AND RESOURCES.

The amount of Capital subscribed exceeds £1,500,000

1853. Capital paid up and in course 1854.

£198,072 10 0 of payment £201,322 10 0

398,153 4 9 Accumulated funds 465,402 8 3

£529,225 14 9 Together £666,724 18 3

CONSTITUTION.

Liability of the entire body of shareholders unlimited.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Property insured against loss or damage by Fire in the United Kingdom, the British Colonies, and in Foreign Countries.

FARMING STOCK INSURED AT 3s. PER CENT.

The Premiums received—

In 1837 were £11,987 In 1842, £23,804

In 1847 „ £49,402 In 1852, £98,655

Persons whose Fire Policies with this Company expire on the 25th instant, are respectfully reminded that receipts for the renewal of the same will be found at the head offices in Liverpool and London, and in the hands of the respective agents.

LIFE DEPARTMENT.

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THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XVI.—NEW SERIES, No. 438.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 1854.

[PRICE 6d.]

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

COLONIAL CLERGY DISABILITIES BILL.

It goes sadly against the grain with us to say "No" to any claim for the most perfect religious liberty. We are loth, even in appearance, to insist that any Church should wear the badge of servitude. There is cause for congratulation when, in any case, and under any circumstances, religious communities, constituted on whatever ecclesiastical principles, chafe under restriction, and evince a desire to act, as every Church must act to be spiritually efficient, freely and independently. But an impulse of benevolence, unless guided by judgment, is liable to commit most mischievous mistakes—and it sometimes becomes a painful duty, especially in public life, to follow a sound principle, even at the hazard of wounding the most tenderly-cherished sympathies.

A bill has been lately introduced into the House of Commons by her Majesty's Solicitor-General, and was read a second time, after discussion and division, on Monday night, "to relieve the clergy of the United Church of England and Ireland resident in the colonies, from any disability as to the holding of meetings in such colonies, for the regulation of ecclesiastical affairs therein." The bill is as brief as need be, consisting of a short preamble, and a single enacting clause. Its purpose has an air of extreme modesty, for it provides that the meetings, which it enables the bishop and his clergy to hold, and the regulations, agreements, and arrangements that shall be made thereat, shall not obtain any force or authority "from the enactments hereby made." The promoters of the bill profess that their aim is simply to place the Church of England in the colonies on the same footing of liberty as that which is already enjoyed by every voluntary religious body; and they pointedly appeal to the Dissenters in the House to aid them in securing for the Church, where she maintains herself from her own resources, all that freedom that is necessary for her successful action.

In dealing with this subject on one or two former occasions, we have felt constrained to ask the question, Why come to Parliament for that which is in your own power? The voluntary churches, whose liberty you emulate, do not require any guarantee *in law*. They meet together when and where they see fit; they recognise such principles of ecclesiastical government as to them may appear most in accordance with reason and scripture; they adopt such mutual agreements and arrangements as may be commended to their minds by obvious fitness and convenience; and they find no sort of obstruction in any existing statute of the realm. Protestant Episcopalians, we suppose, may do likewise. There is nothing, either in their standards of faith, or in their rules of Church discipline, which renders that illegal for them which is confessedly legal for all other religious denominations. They have but to take what they now condescend to ask. They have but to remember, and to act upon, O'Connell's famous maxim:—

"Hereditary bondsmen, know ye not,
Who would be free, himself must strike the blow?"

When, therefore, our compassion and our sense of justice are appealed to, we cannot help inquiring why Churchmen should stoop to request of others what one would think they should be proud to do for themselves? It does not seem natural. Some sufficient reason must exist to account for the anomaly, and the nature and force of that reason it were foolish and fatuous to ignore.

The Solicitor-General, Lord John Russell, and Mr. Walpole, will concur in giving you the information, in the most innocent tones conceivable, that the clergy and members of the Church of England in the colonies cannot, as the law now stands, maintain their connexion with the Established Church in the mother country without becoming subject to all the same legal restrictions to which the Church at home is subject. This is their misfortune, and from this disability they groan to be delivered. But again, we ask, what is the character of the connexion which entails so real a grievance upon them? They might surely become colonial churches, *i. e.*, complete and independent in themselves, without disturbing their spiritual unity. They are not obliged to receive bishops from England to rule over them. Their advocates assure us that they have nothing whatever of a temporal character to lose; that they are self-supporting communities; that they have no civil precedence; no peculiar privileges. If all this be so, why, in wonder's name, do they cling to a legal connexion which does nothing for them but inflict disabilities? To this question we find it impossible to elicit or extort a reply. A mysterious silence is preserved—a dogged silence that provokes suspicion.

The truth seems to be, that the Churches in the colonies, by remaining part of the United Church of England and Wales, obtain, if not for themselves, at least for our rulers, civil and ecclesiastical, at home, several advantages. Their subjection to Canterbury, remote though they be, enhances the grandeur and imposing appearance of the Church authority which has its seat in this country. Legally one with the Establishment here, they never cease to imply their right, should circumstances allow, to be placed on an establishment footing in the colonies. They preserve their title-deed in hope of more propitious times. They are still State Churches *in posse*—religious communities whose domination is in abeyance from necessity, not from choice. They will not sever their ecclesiastical connexion with England, because, in doing so, they lose even the potentiality which changing circumstances may hereafter develop into an Antipodal Church Establishment. The connexion even now gives them a certain social status and prestige. The Crown appoints their bishops, who usually have seats in Colonial Councils. And in various ways, too minute for enumeration, the Church clergy in the colonies derive power from their membership with the Church of England which we can well understand they should be unwilling to resign.

None, not even ruthless Dissenters, have sought to deprive them of those peculiar and undeserved privileges. But they are not content. They ask something more. Without parting with one iota of the authority with which their connexion with the Church of England invests them, they solicit leave for "the Metropolitan of any Province, or the Bishop of any Diocese, in the colonies of Her Majesty, together with his clergy, and the lay persons of such Province or Diocese, to meet together, from time to time, for the purpose, at such meetings, of making, or entering into, any such regulations, agreements, or arrangements, as local circumstances shall in their judgement render necessary for the management or conduct of ecclesiastical affairs." We say, it will be highly dangerous to accord to them that liberty whilst they still retain the legal power of which we have before spoken. True, these regulations are not to have the force of law in themselves; but when agreed upon in synod, they will, at least, have the sanction of law, and the force will be supplied from already existing sources. Thus, suppose a diocesan synod to agree upon the introduction of every Puseyistic "mummery" into the ritual of

the Church in any one of the colonies, the mere fact that such agreement has been made does not constitute the altered ritual law in that Church. But the Bishop of the diocese will have power to adopt those changes, and by the authority which the law of England gives him, to enforce them upon his clergy—so that, after all, the restrictive proviso is not restrictive in reality—and, for aught we see, any ecclesiastical fantasy which can gain the assent of a diocesan synod, may be made, by already existing episcopal authority, binding upon all the members of the Church within that diocese.

The House of Commons does not yet see the question in its true light. If it did, we believe the measure would be rejected by as large a majority as that which on Monday night consented to the second reading of it.

A GOOD WORK WELL COMMENCED.

We refer our readers, with not a little pleasure, to the subscription list put forth by the Executive of the Society for the Liberation of Religion, which appears in our advertising columns to-day. Both the character of the subscribers, and the sums they give, may, we think, be taken to indicate that the changes made at the late Conference have been regarded with general satisfaction, and that henceforth the Society's pecuniary resources will be something like adequate to the work which it has undertaken. The metropolis will, no doubt, furnish £1,000 a year as its contingent. Manchester, we suppose, will not wish to be left far behind; and if the other large towns follow properly in their wake, there will be no difficulty in making up the required £5,000. The Committee are, we believe, now about making an appeal to their friends generally, but our suggestion is, that those who feel the importance of settling the question of ways and means for the next three years at once, will, without waiting for a personal or epistolary canvass, communicate their intentions, that the Committee may have their labours lightened, and their hearts made glad also. Although the first meeting of the new council will be held so shortly as the beginning of May, we hope that the report to be then presented may speak of liberal support rendered, as it will no doubt testify of work well performed.

PETITIONS FOR THE OPENING OF THE UNIVERSITIES.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL's Oxford Reform Bill stands for a second reading next Monday week and though the clauses of which notice has been given by Mr. Heywood cannot be proposed till a subsequent stage, it is most desirable that as many as possible of the petitions claiming the admission of Dissenters should be presented before that time. This may be a briefer period than might be wished for extensive petitioning, but that cannot be helped. Let those who wish to petition do so at once. Others will follow. The Liberation of Religion Society has already received numerous applications, and is in a condition to furnish forms of petition (which may easily and will wisely be varied), with full instructions as to their transmission, and the forms necessary to ensure compliance with the standing orders. There ought to be a petition from every Dissenting congregation and body in the kingdom; and it ought to be signed, too, by every Dissenter who feels that his personal status is lowered, and his consequent power of usefulness impaired, by the exclusion of Dissenters, as such, from the National Universities. We have reason to believe that the petitions already provided far exceed the number originally calculated upon as likely to make a sufficiently favourable impression upon the House; and the spontaneous offers of assistance daily received assure us that nothing but a little mutual communication is needed to accomplish all that we can desire. The last few words of Lord John Russell's speech sufficed to set the ball a-rolling: we have only to keep it up.

MINISTERS' MONEY IN IRELAND.

The following are the names of the members of the House of Commons who voted on the second reading of the Ministers' Money (Ireland) Bill, on Monday night.

AYES.

A'Court, C H W Gould, W Mundy, W
Adderley, C B Gore, W O Neeld, John
Arbuthnot, Hon. G Goulburn, Rt. Hon. H Neeld, J
Bailey, Sir J. Graham, Rt. Hon. Sir J Newark, Viscount
Baillie, H J Greene, T Newdegate, C N
Baines, Rt. Hon. M T Gregson, S North, Colonel
Baird, J Grey, Rt. Hon. Sir G Owen, Sir J
Ball, E Grogan, E Paget, Lord A
Bankes, Rt. Hon. G Gwyn, H Pakington, Rt. Hon.
Baring, Rt. Hon. Sir F Halford, Sir H Sir J
Baring, T Hall, Sir B Palmer, R
Barrow, W H Hamilton, G A Patten, J W
Beach, Sir M H H Hanky, T Peel, F
Beresford, Rt. Hon. W Hamner, Sir J Peel, Colonel
Berkeley, Admiral Harcourt, G G Percy, Hon. J W
Berkeley, Sir G Harcourt, Colonel Phillips, J H
Bethell, Sir R Hardinge, Hon. O S Phillimore, R J
Blair, Colonel Heathcote, Sir W Portal, M
Blandford, Marquis of Heneage, G H W Price, Sir R
Boldero, Colonel Henley, Rt. Hon. J W Pritchard, J
Booth, Sir R G Herbert, Rt. Hon. S Pugh, D
Bramston, T W Herbert, Sir T Rice, E R
Brand, Hon. H Harter, Lord A Robertson, P F
Brown, W Heyworth, L Rolt, P
Bruce, Lord E Hildyard, R O Russell, Lord J
Bruce, G L C Hogg, Sir J W Russell, F O H
Buckley, G Hotham, Lord Scott, Hon. F
Bütt, I Hudson, G Seymour, H K
Campbell, Sir A I Ingham, E Sheridan, E B
Cardwell, Rt. Hon. E Jermyn, Earl Smith, Sir W
Cayley, E S Jocelyn, Viscount Smith, J A
Cecil, Lord E Johnstone, J Smollett, A
Chelms, Viscount Johnstone, Sir J Spooner, R
Cholmondeley, Lord H Jones, Captain Stafford, A
Clinton, Lord R Kendall, N Stanhope, J B
Cobbold, J C Kingscote, R N F Stanley, Lord
Cocks, T S Knatchbull, W F Stanley, Hon. W O
Compton, H C Knightley, R Strling, W
Corry, Rt. Hon. H L Knox, Colonel Strutt, Rt. Hon. E
Davies, D A S Knox, Hon. W S Stuart, H
Davison, R Lacon, Sir E Taylor, Colonel
Denison, J H Langston, J H Thicknesse, R A
Dept, J D Laslett, W Townshend, Captain
Dering, Sir E Lawley, Hon. F C Trollope, Rt. Hon. Sir J
Disraeli, Rt. Hon. B Lennox, Lord A F Tudway, R C
Drumlanrig, Viscount Lennox, Lord H G Vance, J
Drummond, H Leslie, C P Vane, Lord H
Duckworth, Sir J T Lewis, Rt. Hon. Sir T Vernon, G E H
Duncombe, Hon. O Liddell, H G Villiers, Hon. F
Duncombe, Hon. W E Liddell, Hon. H T Vyse, Captain H
Dundas, G Macartney, G Waddington, H S
Du Pre, C G Mackie, J Walcott, Admiral
East, Sir J B Mackinnon, W A Walpole, Rt. Hon. S H
Egerton, W T Maddock, Sir H Watkins, Colonel L
Egerton, E C Mallins, R West, F R
Emlyn, Viscount Mangles, R D Whitman, J
Fellenden, M J March, Earl of Whitbread, S
Fellowes, E Marjoribanks, D C Whiteside, J
Fergus, J Marshall, W Wickham, H W
Ferguson, Colonel Masterman, J Wigram, L T
Fitzroy, Hon. H Matheson, A Willoughby, Sir H
Floyer, J Mannell, T P Wood, B T
Follett, B S Meux, Sir H Wrightson, W B
Freshfield, J W Michell, W Wyndham, Gen.
Fuller, A E Molesworth, Rt. Hon. Sir W Wyndham, W
Gipin, Colonel Morgan, O Young, Rt. Hon. Sir J
Gladstone, Rt. Hon. W Mowbray, J R TELLERS.
Gladstone, Captain Mulgrave, Earl of Hayter, Mr.
Glyn, G C Mullings, J R Berkeley, G.

NOES.

Alcock, T Goderich, Viscount Paget, Lord
Anderson, Sir J Goodman, Sir G Pechell, Sir G B
Arkwright, G Grenfell, C W Pellatt, A
Ball, J Greville, Colonel F Phillimore, J G
Barnes, T Hastie, A Pilkington, J
Beamish, F B Headlam, T E Pinney, W
Bell, J Heard, J Pollard-Urquhart, W
Blackett, J F B Heywood, J Power, N
Bouverie, Hon. E P Higgins, G G O Ricardo, J L
Bowyer, G Hindley, C Richardson, J J
Brotherton, J Hutchins, E J Robertes, T J A
Bruce, H A Keating, R Roebuck, J A
Butler, C S Kennedy, T Scholefield, W
Byng, Hon. G H C Kershaw, J Scully, F
Castlerosse, Viscount King, Hn. P J L Seymour, W D
Challis, Mr. Alderman Kinnaird, Hn. A F Shelley, Sir J V
Chambers, T Laing, S Smith, J B
Cheetham, J Lee, W Strickland, Sir G
Clay, Sir W Locke, J Stuart, Lord D
Cobden, R M'Gregor, J Tancred, H W
Cogan, W H F Maguire, J F Thompson, G
Craufurd, E H J Massey, W N Traill, G
Gubbitt, Mr. Alderman Meagher, T Walsley, Sir J
Duffy, C G Milligan, R Wilkinson, W A
Duke, Sir J Milner, W M E Willcox, B M G Hie
Duncan, G Morris, D Williams, W
Dundas, F Muntz, G F Wise, A
Dunlop, A M Norreys, Lord TELLERS.
Ellice, E Norreys, Sir D J Miall, Mr.
Esmond, J O'Brien, P Hume, Mr.
Ewart, W O'Connell, D
Forster, C O'Connell, J
Fox, R M Oliveira, B
Fox, W J

Amongst the opponents of the reasonable proposition for doing away with this vexatious impost altogether, will be noticed the names of Mr. W. Brown, Sir B. Hall, Mr. Lawrence Heyworth, Mr. Laslett, and Mr. Whatman. The majority, it will be observed, consisted mainly of Tories.

OUR CHURCH RATE RECORD.

We commence our record of this week by mentioning, that there has been seized at Ipswich, from Messrs. Ransome and Sims, no less than nine hundredweight of steel for a Church-rate. "We suppose," says the *Ipswich Express*, "the seizure of steel at the foundry may be taken as significant of the spirit which animates the Church Militant of Ipswich; that its funds are to be collected in future by force of arms, and that the parchment warrant is to be accompanied or superseded by the inch of cold steel."

At a recent meeting of the rate-payers of the parish of All Saints, Newcastle-on-Tyne, the churchwardens proposed that a sum of £400, required for repairing the church, should be raised by a voluntary collection. The motion was carried unanimously. The above example of "Canny Newcastle," where compulsory Church-rates are unknown, is deserving of commendation, and worthy of adoption by every parish in the kingdom. It only requires the will, and, where necessary, fidelity at the election of parish officers at

Easter, for which, including that of the churchwardens, all ratepayers are alike eligible. The nomination and election of Poor-law Guardians, on or before the 26th inst., should not be lost sight of in the different Unions of the country. Friends of religious freedom, avail yourselves of the influence and franchise you have; and the position of your principles may be much improved!

The churchwardens of Lydney, Gloucestershire, called a vestry meeting on Friday last, for the purpose of making a Church-rate, to defray the expenses of the current year. It was stated that the proceedings against Mr. Thomas Nicholson (of which a report was given in the *Nonconformist* three months since) had been abandoned, the legal advisers of the churchwardens having given an opinion adverse to the rate, and it was intimated that no further attempt would be made to collect the arrears of the disputed rates. An estimate was produced of the expenditure for the present year, from which all the items objected to by Mr. Nicholson, as illegal, were excluded, and Mr. Charles Greenham proposed a rate of 5d. in the pound, seconded by Mr. Joseph Taylor. On examination, it appeared that nearly the whole amount of the estimate had been already expended, and the rate was strongly opposed on the ground of its retrospective character—the Vicar and churchwardens, on the other hand, contending for its legality, inasmuch as the expenditure commenced after Easter, 1853, and would all be comprehended in the "current year." An amendment, "That the making of a rate be postponed for six months," was moved by Mr. Charles Bullock, seconded by Mr. James Ridler, and supported by Mr. Nicholson, and carried by a large majority. Mr. T. Williams, churchwarden, demanded a poll, which will be taken in the ensuing week.

In the Church-rate contest reported in our last number, in connexion with Willingham, we are requested to state that the rate was rejected by 133 against 63.

The parishioners of Ely Trinity have resolved, by a very large majority, to provide a burial-ground, according to the Burial beyond the Metropolis Act, in spite of the attempt of the incumbent of the parish and others, to connect it with the church exclusively.

The Tunbridge Church-rate, mentioned in our last, was carried at the poll by 371 to 184. The majority of individuals was only twenty-nine. To obtain the majority, the Conference Methodists coalesced with the Church party, and actively canvassed in favour of the rate. Mr. Harmer, on the declaration of the poll, congratulated the opponents of the rate on their position. Four years ago, when an amendment was proposed, it fell to the ground for want of a seconder.

THE SCOTCH EDUCATION BILL.

The Rev. Dr. Johnston, of Limekilns, and Rev. Henry Renton, of Kelso, have been in town during the last few days as a deputation from the Public Question Committee of the United Presbyterian Synod, on the Lord Advocate's Education Bill. The deputation have had interviews with the Earl of Aberdeen, the Duke of Argyll, and the Earl of Granville. We understand that very strong opposition is made to the 27th clause of the Bill, which enacts religious instruction in the schools at the public expense, and to the 36th clause, under which provision is made for perpetuating and extending denominational schools out of a rate to be levied on the general community.

MINISTERS MONEY (IRELAND) BILL.—The Government bill proposes that only so much of the tax shall continue as is now levied upon houses rated at above £10, and that no house shall pay a greater amount than at present. The produce of so much of the tax as is thus continued is to be paid through the Paymaster of Civil Services to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, who are to pay the incumbents 75 per cent. of the present amount (the marginal note says 80), except where the revenue of a benefice is charged with the payment of curates, and such other charges as are allowed to be deducted in fixing the net income of benefices taxable to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners; in which case the portion of the revenue so employed is to be paid in full. Taxpayers may redeem at fourteen years' purchase.

CHURCHES LITTLE USED.—It appears from the census of religious worship, that of the 14,077 churches in England and Wales there are no less than 4,740 which are open only once on a Sunday—more than a third of the whole number. They are mostly churches in the rural districts, but in no district can all who are disposed to go to church be absent from home at the same service. Inadequate endowments will hardly account for this deficiency, for there are but 1,354 incumbents who have not above £200 a-year. In all England and Wales there are only 732 churches that are open three times on a Sunday.

The *Tablet* announces, with a flourish worthy of the gift, the receipt by Dr. Cullen of the "splendid donation" of £800 from an "anonymous" contributor in aid of the "Catholic University."

THE BISHOPS IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS.—The Right Rev. Dr. Jackson, Bishop of Lincoln, formerly Rector of St. James's Church, Westminster, will take his seat in the House of Lords forthwith, in consequence of the death of the Bishop of Salisbury. The Act constituting the see of Manchester provided that no addition should be made in consequence to the number of spiritual peers, so that under the new arrangement the junior prelate—other than Canterbury, York, London, Durham, and Winchester—is always without a seat in the House of Lords. Dr. Denison's successor in the Bishopric of Salisbury will not have a seat until another vacancy on the episcopal bench occurs.

—STRANGE SCENE AT A FUNERAL.—The Exeter papers give an account of some very unseemly proceedings at a funeral lately in the parish of Bramford-Speke. A respectable farmer, having lost his infant child, requested that it should be buried without going into the

church, and with the use of that portion of the burial service which is read at the grave. The vicar, however, the Rev. G. C. Gorham, told him he should decline to perform the service in any other way than that laid down in the Rubric; and accordingly, on the appointed day, Mr. Gorham met the corpse at the church-yard gate, and preceded the body in the usual way to the church. At the church-porch, the farmer exclaimed, "I say it shan't be taken into the church," and he and his friends proceeded with the body to the grave, the minister and clerk passing into the church and taking their places there. Mr. Gorham then sent to ask the farmer whether he would attend him in the church or not, and he then went into the church, and, going up to Mr. Gorham, who was in the reading-desk, began arguing on what he considered his rights. Mr. Gorham unrobed and went with him into the church-yard, and there remonstrated with him, but got for answer that he would read the service at the grave himself if his demands were not complied with. Mr. Gorham warned him of the consequences and retired, but after some hours was informed that the body was within the church, and that the father desired its interment; and he then returned, and, finding that, though the father and relatives had left, the nurse was in attendance, conducted the service. The farmer afterwards apologized, to avoid proceedings against him in the Ecclesiastical Court for brawling.

RELIGIOUS TOLERATION IN SWEDEN.—It is known that in Sweden conversion from the Protestant (Lutheran) religion is strictly forbidden. The public prosecutor of Stockholm has just commenced a prosecution before the Criminal Court of that city of six married women, named Funk, Offermann, Schutz, Anderson, Wallander, and Muller, and of an unmarried one, named Lundegren, for having abandoned the Lutheran faith, in which they were baptised, and embraced that of the Roman Catholic Church. He demands that, according to the criminal code, they shall be condemned "to be exiled from the kingdom of Sweden, and be deprived of the right of inheritance, and of all civil rights."

Religious Intelligence.

THE REV. SAMUEL FAIRLEY, late of Newport, Fifeshire, has received a unanimous invitation to the pastorate of the Independent Church assembling in Broadgates Chapel, Hexham, Northumberland.

TWERTON, BATH.—On Monday, March 13th, an interesting service was held at the Baptist Chapel, Twerton, in connexion with the settlement of the Rev. E. Clarke, late of Weston, Northamptonshire, when the Revs. T. Winter, of Bristol, D. Wassal, of Bath, and R. Morris, of Clifton, addressed the meeting. Other friends also took part in the engagements of the evening, among whom were E. Hancock, Esq., Revs. Noyes and Spiller, and Mr. Morris. The congregation was large, and the service well sustained to the close.

OVER, CHESHIRE.—On the 8th inst., the Rev. John Marshall, who has been settled in the above place thirty-four years, was presented by his Church and congregation with a purse containing eighty sovereigns and a gold watch, with appendages, "as a token of affection and esteem, and of their gratitude for his faithful services as their pastor." There was a tea-meeting on the occasion, which was presided over by R. Dutton, Esq., of Hawthorne Hall, and addressed by the Revs. D. G. Watt, of Northwich; J. Robinson, of Middlewich; W. Marshall, of Wigan; C. E. Palmer, of Whitechurch; — Rhode, of Sandbach; — Sadler, of Nantwich; and other gentlemen.

ECCLESTON CHAPEL, PIMLICO.—At a public meeting held in Ranelagh Chapel, Sloane-square, on Monday week, of the Church and congregation assembling in the above place of worship, a testimonial was presented to the Rev. J. Davis on his removal from the pastorate there. It consisted of an elegantly-worked purse, containing 180 sovereigns, and of a massive salver valued at thirty guineas. Mr. Davis, it appears, has been compelled to relinquish his charge by the proprietor of the chapel. The Rev. Dr. Aroher and other speakers expressed their sympathy with him, and their strong disapprobation of the system under which he suffered.

HALIFAX.—SQUARE CHAPEL SUNDAY AND DAY SCHOOLS.—The anniversary sermons on behalf of the above schools were preached on Sunday last, by the Rev. T. Binney, of London, morning and evening, when collections were made, amounting to the noble sum of \$122. The chapel was crowded on both occasions with attentive congregations, who listened with great interest to the very excellent discourses that were delivered. It was stated that there are in connexion with the Sabbath-schools about 750 scholars and fifty teachers, and with the day-schools, about 200 scholars and three teachers. Upwards of 500 of the Sunday-schoolers are able to read in the Bible. In the vestry classes there are 140 young men and women, of which number forty are above twenty years old. In the day-schools, all the branches of a good English education are taught and some of the scholars are well advanced in their studies. Under the pastoral care of the Rev. E. Mellor, M.A., the congregation and schools at Square Chapel have so increased that, for a considerable period, there has been a deficiency of accommodation for both; in consequence of which, a new chapel is about to be erected on ground purchased adjoining the present one, and the old chapel made into schools. The new chapel will be a beautiful gothic structure, from designs by Mr. James, architect, of London, and will seat about 1,400; the supposed cost will be about £6,000. The total amount required for the purchase of the ground, building the new chapel, altering the present chapel into schools, will be little short of

\$8,000: towards which the congregation have promised upwards of \$6,000, payable in four years.

BRADFORD TOWN MISSION.—The annual meeting of this institution was held on Monday in last week, in St. George's Hall, and is reported at some length in the local *Observer*. The hall, which holds 4,400 people, was crowded, and amongst them were 2,000 children connected with twenty-two of the Sunday-schools of the town, who sung several hymns in the course of the evening. Samuel Smith, Esq., the mayor, presided, and was supported by nearly all the ministers and many influential gentlemen, including Titus Salt, Esq., Mr. Alderman Murgatroyd, Mr. Alderman Beaumont, Mr. Alderman Brown, Rev. G. W. Conder, of Leeds; Rev. W. Walters, of Halifax; Rev. C. H. Bateman, of Hopton; Rev. Dr. Acworth, Revs. W. Scott, J. Glyde, H. Doyson, J. Cooper (St. Jude's), W. Brailsford, W. Collins, J. P. Chown, D. Fraser, Marmaduke C. Osborn, T. Jackson, S. G. Green, D. Sim, J. Paul, and F. Stephens. The meeting was the largest ever gathered in St. George's Hall. The report, read by the Rev. H. Doyson, referred to the Census Returns on Religious Worship, and stated that the number attending places of worship in Bradford, on the day when the census was taken, was 30,000, out of a population of 104,000. "The only lights which relieve this dark and melancholy picture are those which emanate from town missions and other institutions of a kindred nature. In cottage-meetings and special services for the working-classes, the truths of Christianity are presented to many of those, who will not respond to the mute invitation afforded by the open door of a religious edifice. The number of religious tracts put into circulation in the course of the year, has been about 30,000. The special services for the working-classes have been continued throughout the year on Sabbath afternoons, at the Mechanics' Institute, with the exception of the three summer months, during which the addresses have been given in the Market-place. The audiences have generally been large, always decorous and attentive, whilst almost every week gives to your missionaries some additional evidence of the interest with which the addresses are received." The report furnished details relating to the publication of the Rev. Dr. Godwin's Lectures on Atheism. The Rev. J. G. Miall, in moving the first resolution, dwelt at some length on the encouraging aspect of the meeting before him, and was followed by Mr. Alderman Murgatroyd. The Rev. G. W. Conder moved the next resolution, which was as follows:—

That this meeting recognises in the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ the true harmonising principle of society; and regards, therefore, the various operations of the Town Mission as embodying influences eminently adapted to promote the brotherhood of classes, the co-operation of Christians, and the spirit of oneness between the several sections of the Church.

Mr. Conder spoke eloquently upon the necessity of more urgent efforts for the evangelization of the masses:—

The features of social life in most of our large manufacturing towns were the birth of the present age and were entirely new. They had to deal with these immense bodies of what were called the lower classes, crowded together in these manufacturing towns, as a new fact. Compared with the work which the Christian Churches had to perform in these places, that which it had to do in small country places was an easy and a reachable thing. When there was a population of 6,000 or 10,000 in a parish, every soul of those people was within reach of the Christian people who happened to dwell there, with a very small sacrifice of time and money, and a very small amount of effort. Far different was the case with the masses crowded together in these great centres of commerce and intelligence. In the first place, far different were the minds with which they had to deal. They had to deal with minds fortified in their irreligion and carelessness of all religious observances and duties, by the example of hundreds of thousands around them. They had to deal with masses, it might be, compact and firm against them. He spoke not of infidelity, for that was a very small matter of concern compared with that which lay at the back of infidelity, and compared with which he cared not one iota for the progress which infidelity might be expected to make in the land side by side of the Christian agencies which existed. But he spoke of the apathy, the indifference, the living away from all religious obligations which had become the dreadful sign of these times. A very heavy responsibility rested upon those large owners of manufacturing property through whose means, chiefly, these masses of people had been thus drawn together. When people were thus thrown together in crowds, not only was there a chance of every good thing being immensely strengthened, but also every evil thing. Vice nowhere attained such a gigantic size, spread with such rapidity, or ran in such huge, mighty, desolating torrents as where large masses of the people were gathered together. It became, then, the duty of those living in these manufacturing towns, by whose means these things had been brought about, to see to it that nothing rested on their consciences—that nothing could be laid to their charge before God—as to neglecting the spiritual provision of these masses of the people. How the thing was to be accomplished was a question which he believed had yet to be determined—not perhaps by much debate, or by many more writings, discussions, or disquisitions about it. Possibly they had reached the limit of that; possibly no new organization could be devised superior to that which at present existed; but what was wanted was this, that all their existing organizations should be used by the Church in such a way as should manifest to the world and to God that she was in earnest about the spread of Christ's kingdom at home. He was one of those who considered their system of denominational agencies as a thing required by these times. It was necessary there should be centres round which and toward which they should work. Still he would say: Oh for the day to come—if ever it may be expected to come—when we shall awake and find, by some strange baptism from on high, that we have lost all our distinctions one from another, and that we are henceforth at liberty to throw all the influence and wealth of the Church into one common receptacle, and use them for the common advantage of the people! (Applause.)

The Rev. M. C. Osborn having spoken, the Rev. C. H. Bateman addressed the young people, after which the national anthem was sung, and a vote of thanks passed to the chairman.

Correspondence.

NEW TESTAMENTS FOR THE MILITARY EXPEDITION TO TURKEY.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—Some friends have suggested the importance of supplying each of the soldiers now leaving England with a copy of the New Testament. I beg to say, through you to your readers, that should any of them feel disposed to assist in this noble undertaking, the committee of "The Soldiers' Friend Society" are prepared to carry out the proposal as far as their means will allow. Contributions to this object will be thankfully received by your obedient servant,

WILLIAM A. BLAKE, Hon. Sec.

"Soldiers' Friend Society,"

15, Exeter Hall, March 20, 1854.

CONGREGATIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION.

The third annual meeting of the Yorkshire Auxiliary of the Congregational Board of Education was held in East-parade Chapel, Leeds, on the 8th inst. John Crossley, Esq., of Halifax, occupied the chair, and there was a considerable attendance of ministers and gentlemen interested in education. The report of the Executive Committee, read by Mr. Frederick Baines, stated that Homerton College was now placed in trust; that the reports of highly qualified examiners had expressed great approbation of the instruction imparted in the college; that at the beginning of the present session thirty students had entered the Normal School for training, while forty had left and been appointed to schools during the past year, of whom nine had settled in Yorkshire. The great value of well-qualified teachers, to create whom was the principal object of the college, was dwelt upon. The importance of forming, much more extensively than had hitherto been done, local associations to co-operate with the London Board, was shown to have led to the engagement of the Rev. F. Neller, who had already visited several parts of the country, canvassing for subscriptions, and with satisfactory results. The schools which had been referred to in the report of last year as then recently opened, were stated to be succeeding very well, and others were now in course of erection in districts which needed them, to be supplied with teachers from Homerton. The report closed as follows:—"In this rising specially, the appeal made on behalf of the general objects of the Board of Education has been cheerfully met, while local efforts are year by year increasing. We trust that the example set in this and other counties will be promptly and generally followed."

After a resolution to print and publish the report had been moved and seconded by John Clapham, Esq., and the Rev. Mr. Seales,

EDWARD BAINES, Esq., congratulated the association on the success which had attended the mission of the Rev. Frederick Neller to Yorkshire. Within less than a week he had obtained about £100, nearly all in annual subscriptions to the Board of Education. The results of his labours showed that nothing was requisite to place the Congregational Board of Education on an immovable basis, but a more perfect organization for securing the support and calling forth the interest of all who shared its convictions. Mr. Baines then reviewed the history of the Education question during the past year, noticing the Boroughs Education Bill, introduced by Lord J. Russell in April, 1853, the vigorous opposition offered to that measure by large towns in Yorkshire and elsewhere, and its ultimate postponement. He drew attention to the fact that, notwithstanding this virtual abandonment of the Bill, the Minute of the Committee of Council on Education, which Lord John Russell had given Parliament and the country to suppose would stand or fall with his measure, had since been brought into operation, and that thus the rural parts and small towns of England were placed under a system which had never received legislative sanction. This application of the Minute was the more inexcusable, as not only had Lord J. Russell expressed doubts whether Government would bring it into operation except in concurrence with the bill, but Earl Granville, President of the Committee of Council, had stated it as his impression, that such a course would be improper. Yet the thing had been done, and simply by means of the ordinary vote for educational purposes, which was itself taken in the House of Commons when no one expected the subject to come on. He (Mr. Baines) was convinced, that if this Minute were allowed to continue in force, many hundred thousands of pounds would soon be required from the country yearly to carry it out, and it would pauperise education among more than one-half of the nation. (Cheers.) He trusted the matter would this session be brought under the notice of Parliament and fully discussed. He congratulated the meeting on the defeat, both last session and this, of the Manchester Education Bills; but expressed a fear that the Scotch Education Bill, lately introduced by the Lord Advocate, would receive more favour than it deserved, in consequence of its apparent liberality as opposed to the educational monopoly of the old Kirk of Scotland. The rival Manchester plans, so happily defeated, threw the entire support of the schools on public taxation, which was the worst form of national education. It was encouraging to the friends of Voluntaryism in England to observe the liberal efforts by which it was supported in so poor a country as Wales. Mr. Baines described the steps recently taken to rescue the Normal School at Swansea from embarrassments, into which it had been brought by the defalcation of its treasurer; and gave an account of a visit lately paid by that noble friend of Voluntary Education, Samuel Morley, Esq., of London, by the Rev. H. Richard, and by himself, to Swansea, Merthyr Tydvil, and other places in South Wales, in connection with the above object. Among

other projects devised on that occasion, and for which money was raised, was that of a loan fund for building schools. In the course of that visit, he had inquired of an intelligent schoolmaster at Aberdare how he came to have so many boys of comparatively advanced age under his care when their labour at the iron works would be so profitable? and the reply was worthy of universal notice. It was to the effect, that when a parent proposed removing his son, as having finished his education, he (the schoolmaster) pointed out that in one or other branch of knowledge the boy had made greater progress than in the rest, and that it would be for his interest in after-life either to prosecute yet further the favourite branch, or to bring his other attainments to an equally high point. The parents, in most instances, wished nothing so much as the real advancement of their children, and this simple argument for a longer schooling was successful half-year after half-year with the same parties, to the lasting advantage of the young persons, and of course, also, to the benefit of the school. (Cheers.) Mr. Baines concluded by an appeal to the meeting and to Congregationalists to manifest in every way their zeal for public education. The best way to meet all opponents, and practically to establish their own principles, was to support with power and liberality their own schools and institutions, to increase their number, and to add to their efficiency. (Loud cheers.) He moved:—

That every fresh attempt to legislate for education serves to draw forth the objections to which all such projects are open on the part of different classes of the people, either on religious or civil grounds, or on both; whilst it also confirms the friends of Voluntary Education in the conviction, that the only mode of conducting education so as neither to offend conscience, nor violate justice and freedom, is to leave the work in the hands of the people themselves.

The Rev. E. MELLOR, of Halifax, seconded the motion.

The next resolution was proposed by the Rev. Professor FRASER, of Airedale College:—

That the Minute of Council of the 2nd April, 1853, for making new and much larger grants to schools in the rural districts and small unincorporated towns, is a fresh injustice to Disenters, who cannot receive these grants; and, having been carried into effect without any Parliamentary discussion, is another illustration of the unconstitutional working of the Committee of Council on Education.

Mr. Fraser, in the course of his remarks, explained the position of the education question in Scotland. He showed that the exclusive possession and administration by the Established Church of the funds left for the education of all, had caused the union of other religious bodies in favour of a fairer national system, and the willingness of many to overlook most serious evils, which must attend the operation of a measure like that of the Lord Advocate. It was a fact, that three-fourths of the Scotch people were now educated on the Voluntary system, and far better educated than those who attended the Established schools. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. J. TATTERSFIELD seconded the motion, and it was supported by the Rev. G. W. CONDER.

THOMAS BAINES, Esq., of Cottingley, near Bingley, gave a very interesting account of the manner in which the working people of that village (the population of which was only 600) had supplied themselves with a good day-school for such of their children as were half-timers, and others. A public meeting had been held to consider how the end might be effected, and on his (Mr. Baines) offering £20 a year towards the expenses, he was delighted to be met by numerous working-men's subscriptions of £1 each yearly; one man in the receipt of 14s. a week only, had offered 10s. a year. (Loud cheers.) £40 was thus at once raised, and by his advice a teacher from Homerton was obtained, who had proved not only an admirable master, but a leader in every good thing in the place. He received a salary of £60 a year, and though some parties had yet to subscribe largely towards this amount, they did it most cheerfully, for the children, who were formerly like lawless savages, were now well-behaved and intelligent, and, as mill hands, worth three times as much as before. (Renewed applause.) Mr. Baines moved:—

That the returns furnished by the Census of 1851, as to day-schools, Sunday-schools, and places of worship, furnish the most abundant and incontrovertible proof of the power of the voluntary system both in education and religion.

The Rev. EDWARD CBELL seconded the resolution.

The Rev. H. R. RAYNOLDS moved:—

That a memorial be sent to Parliament from this meeting, and signed by its Chairman in the name of the assembled County Board, condemning the unconstitutional and surreptitious enactment of the Minute in Council, by which a complete change was accomplished in the educational arrangements of the rural districts, without any discussion in the House of Commons. And that a recommendation proceed from this meeting to the Congregational Board in London, urging them to use whatever means they may deem desirable to promote the people's indignant condemnation of the proceedings of Government in this respect.

The Rev. F. NELLER, of London, seconded the motion, and explained that the education vote had passed last session without remark, from its coming on when wholly unexpected, and when the Voluntaries in Parliament were, therefore, wholly unprepared to oppose it vigorously. He trusted no such occurrence would again take place. His own mission had been alluded to; it was simply to call attention to the best possible form in which Voluntaries could enforce their objections to State systems of education, viz., by doing the work themselves. The Congregational Board of Education would supply them with efficient agents. He had visited Gloucestershire, Berkshire, and Manchester, before coming to Yorkshire, and had been very favourably received. In this county, his success hitherto had quite equalled his expectations (cheers), and he had yet several important places to visit. He begged the attention of all friends of the Board, but especially of ministers, to a circular just about to be issued, inviting help, by the selection of suitable Christian young men and women to go to Homerton, with a view to their being trained for teachers. Much might be done in this way by ministers in the provinces.

The other resolutions, which were formal, were proposed and seconded by Alderman PEE-SURR, Rev. J. STUBBS, WILLIAM KILSALL and J. GLOVER, Esq.

Parliamentary Proceedings.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

PETITIONS PRESENTED.

Decimal Coinage, in favour of, 4.
 Education (Scotland) Bill, against, 3.
 in favour of, 1.
 Episcopal and Capitular Estates Bill, against, 2.
 Fire Insurance Duty, for repeal of, 4.
 Catholic Priests in Gaols, against endowment of, 19.
 Reformatory Institutions, in favour of, 3.
 Medical Practitioners' Bill, against, 6.
 in favour of, 9.
 Medical Officers (Navy), for improvement of, 3.
 Ministers' Money (Ireland), for abolition of, 1.
 Oaths, for abolition of, 1.
 Parliamentary Oaths Bill, against, 83.
 in favour of, 1.
 Ocean Penny Postage, in favour of, 4.
 Paper Duty, for repeal of, 2.
 Parliamentary Representation Bill, in favour of, 1.
 Public Houses on Sundays, for closing, 154.
 Settlement Bill, in favour of, 11.
 against, 21.
 Stage Carriages Duty, for repeal of, 6.
 Payment of Wages Bill, in favour of, 4.
 Maynooth Grant, against, 9.
 Consolidation of Borough and County Police, against, 1.

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME.

High Treason (Ireland) Bill.
 Property Disposal Bill [to secure to persons under religious vows, the free exercise of their lawful rights in the disposal of their property].
 Declaration Bill (Mr. Pellatt).
 Oxford University Bill.
 Public Libraries and Museums Bill.
 Dublin Post Bill.
 Dublin Carriage Bill.

BILLS READ A SECOND TIME.

Payment of Wages Bill.
 Ministers' Money &c. (Ireland) Bill.
 Colonial Clergy Disabilities Bill.

CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE.

Exchequer Bills (£1,750,000) Bill.
 Friendly Societies Bill.

BILLS READ A THIRD TIME.

Marine Mutiny Bill.
 Exchequer Bills (£1,750,000.) Bill.

DEBATES.

PAYMENT OF WAGES BILL.

In the House of Commons, on Wednesday, Mr. FORSTER moved the second reading of this bill. A discussion then arose on the propriety of legislating on the subject; and Mr. CRAWFORD moved an amendment to the effect, that an inquiry into the relations between masters and men should take place before further legislation. Mr. HUME, Mr. HEYWORTH, Mr. MOFFATT, Mr. BRIGHT, and Lord STANLEY, maintained that past legislation had been fruitless; that further legislation was unnecessary; and that the workmen had better be left to fight their own battle. Mr. DRUMMOND, Sir JOSHUA WALMSLEY, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. H. BRUCE, contended that past legislation had been beneficial; that it was necessary to redress the grievances which the strong inflict on the weak; and that contracts should be carried out in the spirit in which they are made. Sir GEORGE GREY said that there was no need for further inquiry: some abuses existed, and ought to be redressed; others cannot be reached by enactment. On a division, the amendment was negatived by 166 to 56. The bill was read a second time, and referred to a select committee.

LAW OF MORTMAIN.

Mr. HEADLAM, on Thursday, asked leave to bring in a bill for the amendment of the law relating to the disposition of property for religious and charitable purposes. He asked the House to repeal the whole law on the subject, and substitute provisions in its stead which would effectually remedy existing abuses. After an historical disquisition on the law, he stated the provisions of his measure. Leaving the law as it now stands, with regard to the granting of land as a permanent source of income for charitable purposes, he proposed that there should be no restriction with respect to the gift of land as a site for churches, chapels, schools, museums, or libraries, except due notice to the Charity Commissioners, in order that it be registered. With respect to personality, he proposed to place every description of personal property on the same footing; requiring that any will bequeathing it for charitable purposes should be executed three months before the death of the testator; and that notice of the gift, and of the purposes to which it is to be applied, should be given to the Charity Commissioners. But he would place no restraint on bequests of pictures, books, statues, or matters of that kind. Another provision of the bill was for curing titles bad in consequence of the defects of the existing law. With respect to secret trusts, he proposed that if any person accept property upon trust, and do not give notice of it, he shall be personally liable to refund the rents of the property which have been applied in this manner; and if no suit were instituted for that purpose in the course of five years, the Attorney-General should, at the end of the five years, be at liberty to institute a suit against him.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said that, without pledging themselves to the precise details of the bill, the Government were ready to take the subject into their consideration.

Leave was given to bring in the bill.

ENDOWED GRAMMAR-SCHOOLS.

Mr. PELLATT, on the same day, moved for an address for the appointment of a Royal Commission of Inquiry into the state, average number of pupils, discipline, studies, and revenue of endowed schools of England and Wales; also, of the endowments for scholars, their number and revenue; likewise, of all bequests of libraries, and endowments for their support; the character, numbers, and condition of the books, the number of the librarians and their salaries, with the view of increasing the educational and other advantages to the public in general. The object of his motion was to bring to bear, for educational purposes, the large funds belonging to these endowments which, at present, were

applied in very minute proportion to the purposes for which they were granted. He had not the slightest doubt that, could the whole of these funds be applied to their intended purpose, the educational system of the country might be placed on an efficient footing without any aid whatever from the Government. It might be said, perhaps, that the Charitable Trust Commission were competent to deal with this subject; but the commissioners had already more work on their hands than they could transact for the next forty years to come. From the funds of Dulwich College alone more than £5,000 a-year might be applied to the educational purposes for which they were granted, but to which they were not applied. Another instance he might mention was that of the Grammar-school of St. David's, in South Wales, where lands bequeathed for educational purposes were, by mismanagement, let for £1,500, where they might readily realise £6,000, and where but £50 of the amount was applied to education. The case of the Grammar-school at Cheltenham proved how much might be done by rigid inquiry; for whereas, a few years since, only sixteen children were educated there, now, in consequence of the investigation that had taken place, means were found by the fund, which had been so long misapplied, for the education of 300 children.

Lord J. RUSSELL said that the inquiry proposed by the hon. gentleman would be attended with considerable expense, and would, in fact, be an interference with the commission which was appointed last year. (Hear, hear.) It did not appear to him quite obvious to what an inquiry into all the particulars referred to by the hon. member would tend, and it was to be recollected that there had already been a commission of inquiry into the system of charity schools, which had been attended with vast expense, and the report of which had filled many folio volumes. He believed that there might still remain some things to be done; and that, as the commissioners appointed last year might not be able to extend their inquiry to the subject of endowed schools and such matters, so as to be able to effect the desired improvements, it might, therefore, be necessary to extend their powers, and to give them a larger staff than they had at present. The noble lord then moved the previous question.

Mr. HUME thought that the appointment of a new commission would be productive of mischief rather than good. As he understood from the noble lord that the Government intended taking the subject into their consideration, he trusted that the hon. member would withdraw his motion. He must, however, express a hope, that there would be no delay in the proceeding of the commission, more especially with regard to the funds of these schools.

Sir G. GREY said that if the hon. member for South-west pressed his motion, he should be prepared to show that the present commissioners had power to conduct the first part of the inquiry now proposed. By the law, as it at present stood, endowed schools were bound to send in, before such day as the commissioners appointed, a full statement of their revenues; but it would be impossible, with so limited a staff, to undertake the whole inquiry.

Mr. PELLATT then withdrew the motion.

REFORM OF THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY.

In the House of Commons, on Friday, Lord JOHN RUSSELL moved for leave to bring in a bill to make further provision for the good government and extension of the University of Oxford, and of the colleges therein. After noticing the very elaborate and copious reports of the commission appointed to inquire into the subject, he assumed, as sufficiently proved by the evidence—in particular that of Dr. Pusey—that the University of Oxford did not at present fulfil the purposes for which it was established, and that some reform was absolutely needed. The first ground of complaint related to the constitution of the governing body of the University; the Heads of Houses being, it was said, elected for other purposes, could not be specially qualified to undertake the superintendence of its studies. The second alteration called for was the extension of the University, many halls and colleges having, in the course of time, become extinct. There had been much acute discussion as to the comparative advantages of the college tutorial and the professorial systems; but it appeared to him that these systems were not necessarily antagonistic. If the education was to be entirely confined to the colleges, the consequence would be, that tutors would restrict themselves to certain branches of learning and to certain books; on the other hand, the professorial system alone had a tendency to encourage a loose and superficial course of studies; although, at the same time, it was not to be expected that the college tutor could attain that large and comprehensive view of different sciences which students might acquire from persons in the station of professor. It seemed to him that we had an opportunity, which ought not to be lost, of combining the advantages of both systems, and that the students, besides the college tuition, should enjoy the advantage of acquiring a knowledge of modern science and literature, and of modern tongues, which would be beneficial, not merely to those who studied for a profession and cultivated learning as a path to eminence and emolument. Looking at the deficiency in mathematical tuition at Oxford, and to the scanty attendance at present upon the University professors, who did not form an efficient part of the University system of education, he thought there should be a junction of the college and the professorial systems of teaching. Another matter of complaint was the restriction in respect to various honours and emoluments which were the rewards of learning. Fellowships and scholarships were more restricted now than originally, and witnesses asserted that by these restrictions a very ordinary man was very often preferred to a distinguished one, and many of those fellowships were held for a considerable number of years by persons who ceased to have any connexion with Oxford, and contributed

nothing to its studies or discipline. In the next place it appeared to the Government that some portion of the revenues of the richer colleges, not now applied to the purposes of learning or teaching, ought to be so applied. He might be told, he observed, that this would be an interference with the testamentary disposition of property; but no man could deny that it was not only fair, but that it was the right and the duty of Parliament to take care that these great endowments, given for the promotion of education, should be applied to the purposes intended by the founders. Changes, and very important ones, had been made, not only at the Reformation, but later still, in the endowments set apart for lectures on divinity, the canon law, moral and natural philosophy. What had become of these endowments? Dr. Routh, the venerable President of Magdalen College, had said that the alterations had been made *pro ratione temporis*. As the object in view was to rectify abuses, not to destroy endowments, why should not other changes be introduced in the same spirit and to the same end—that of adapting endowments to the exigencies of time? If the question was between respect for antiquity and for modern times, he maintained that antiquity was in favour of these changes. Lord John then proceeded to explain the general nature of the bill. With respect to the government of the University, instead of the Hebdomadal Board, consisting of the Vice-Chancellor, the Heads of Houses, and the Proctors, it was proposed to create a body of twenty-four or twenty-five members, to be called the Hebdomadal Council, to be thus composed: the Vice-Chancellor and the two Proctors to be always part of the Council, and the Vice-Chancellor of the preceding year, when not elected a member of the Council, to continue to be a member until the next triennial election. With regard to the other members of the Council, it was proposed that the body called the Congregation should elect six Heads of colleges or halls, and that a seventh Head should be nominated by the Chancellor of the University; that six Professors should be elected by the Congregation, another appointed by the Chancellor, and another chosen from among the professors of theology, and that six members of Convocation, of not less than five years' standing, should be elected by the Congregation. Of the persons to be elected out of each of the three classes—Heads of Houses, Professors, and members of Convocation—the three juniors would vacate their seats at the expiration of the third year from their election. This was the constitution of the proposed governing body of the University. It was proposed to abrogate the oaths binding persons not to disclose any matter relating to their college, or to any inquiry appointed by law, and to certain other matters. Another object of the bill was to give a power of opening private halls, by license from the Vice-Chancellor. The expense and extravagance of young men at the University, though a serious evil, he believed could not be corrected by Parliament, but must be prevented, first, by inducing better manners and morals, and, secondly, by rules and regulations framed by the authorities of the University. The next subject raised a question which he did not propose to discuss in detail—namely, the preference given by testators to founders' kin, or to certain counties, or to particular schools; the bill would do away generally with the two former restrictions, and it provided that fellowships should not be held for more than a year, unless the holder should be engaged in the University in tuition or discipline. The power of applying part of the revenues of colleges to increasing the funds for the promotion of education, it was intended to be thus conferred and exercised. It was proposed to appoint a commission with power to approve of statutes framed by the colleges until Michaelmas Term, 1855, after which the commissioners would have authority to enact statutes, which, when approved by the Queen in Council, would have the force of law, and the colleges would be authorised to contribute for University purposes to the extent of one-fifth of their revenues. Lord John Russell concluded with a reference to opening the Universities to Dissenters:—

There remains one question upon which there is no provision in the bill, but upon which I shall be ready at any time to give my opinion, and my vote in conformity with the opinion which I have always given. (Hear.) I cannot think that the purposes of the University are advanced while there is a test at the commencement of entrance into the University—[The noble lord at this juncture turned completely round to the members behind him, who cheered so lustily in the middle of the sentence that the concluding portion of it was entirely lost]. I never would consent to any measure by which the discipline of the colleges, or the conduct of the religious instruction in the colleges, or the attendance upon Divine worship was in any way interfered with; but I do expect, certainly, that by the addition of these new halls facilities will be afforded which may induce Parliament not to interpose the obstacles which have hitherto been interposed to the enjoyment of the benefits of those great schools of learning by a far greater portion of Her Majesty's subjects than now enjoy them. (Hear, hear.) I do not think that it would be wise, and Her Majesty's Government have decided accordingly, to insert any provision upon this subject in the present bill. It is a subject which divides both this and the other House of Parliament, and it should be, I think, a subject reserved for a separate measure, and for separate consideration. I certainly shall be always prepared, at any time, to give my vote in the same manner that I gave it twenty years ago. That vote I gave in company with the present Chancellor of the University of Oxford. I am afraid that I shall no longer give it with the sanction and countenance of such authority; but I shall be quite ready, nevertheless, to give my vote in favour of the admission of Dissenters. As I have already said, however, that forms no part of the present bill. Still, I think no one will deny that this is a large and comprehensive measure of reform. ("Hear, hear," and a laugh from the Opposition).

Mr. BLACKETT had no claim to speak on behalf of the Dissenters—others, connected with that body, would doubtless do that—but, as a member of the University

of Oxford, and as a warm friend to that great institution, he felt bound to declare his conviction, that the removal of the restrictions which prevented Dissenters from entering the University would be in a very high degree beneficial to the University itself. (Hear, hear.) No one could have fairly considered the evils which had hampered the usefulness of these institutions without arriving at the conclusion, that they were largely attributable to the narrow, sectarian and clerical spirit which had borne sway there. (Hear, hear.) These evils would be remedied in a large measure by the introduction into this bill of a single clause, declaring that these splendid institutions should no longer be the monopoly of a sect, had become the inheritance of the whole nation. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. MIALI said, that when he entered the House that evening, and, indeed, when the noble lord rose to make his statement, he had not entertained the remotest intention of taking part in the discussion of the question then before the House, but after having listened to the address of the noble lord, he could not refrain from making one or two observations. He must say that he had seldom passed an hour of deeper mortification (a laugh), nor been more acutely alive to a sense of humiliation of position, than whilst listening to the noble lord's speech that evening. He had sometimes endeavoured to realise the feelings with which any one of the three millions of slaves in America would hear the Declaration of Independence read on the 4th of July, in which all men are declared "free and equal," and from which the only conclusion the slave could draw, looking at the relationship he sustained to his master, was that he was not considered to be possessed of the common attributes of humanity. In some such way he viewed the proposal of the noble lord. The noble lord had brought forward a measure for the future regulation of national institutions—and, so far as he could judge of them, the provisions of that measure were wise and beneficial—from all the advantages, honours, and emoluments of which, Dissenters were to continue to be excluded. The volume of the Census on religious worship in this country, recently published, showed that the population of England and Wales was divided, as to religious profession, into three nearly equal parts. The Dissenters constituted something more than 5,000,000 more—and the members of the Established Church somewhat exceeded 5,000,000. Now, this was a bill to extend and improve a great national institution for the exclusive benefit of one-third of her Majesty's subjects. This was not the time to enter into argument upon the subject, but he felt bound to protest against this one-sided legislation. (Hear, hear.) He wished to know the position in which he, as a Dissenter, stood. When this House proceeded to impose taxation, he and his fellow Dissenters were treated as being part of the nation; but whenever the House had, as now, advantages of an educational or other kind to confer, he and they were dealt with as no part of the nation. (Hear, hear.) He trusted the Government would think better of this matter. The noble lord, indeed, had intimated his readiness to admit Dissenters to the Universities, if the question were brought forward in a separate measure. The noble lord was, no doubt, sincere, for he had proved his sincerity by a former vote. But the noble lord, deferring to anticipated opposition in another place, deemed it wise not to make provision to this effect in the present measure. But it was only fair that, if the provision would encounter decided opposition and hostile influences elsewhere, the refusal should rest upon the proper responsibility. It was not fair to Government that they should take that responsibility on themselves by anticipation. (Hear, hear.) If the Government really wished for the admission of Dissenters to the Universities, let them express it in this bill, and let them throw the responsibility of refusing it upon those who really ought to bear it. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. WALPOLE followed the proposition through its various details, on which he offered sundry criticisms, and suggested many cautious considerations. He thought that an enabling and not a compulsory bill would have been quite sufficient for the country, and more respectful towards the University.

Sir W. HEATHCOTE pointed out that nothing short of a compulsory law would be of avail, the college authorities being bound, by their own statutes, against any changes.

Mr. ROUNDELL PALMER believed that the plan now proposed contained a judicious selection from all the various schemes previously suggested for University reform. With respect to the admission of Dissenters he said:—

Nothing would give him greater satisfaction than to see Dissenters and Churchmen living together, and prosecuting their studies together, at the University; but, at the same time, knowing the strong feeling of individuals on the subject of religion, knowing the strong religious jealousies which existed, the objection to proselytism, and the zeal on the part of individuals for the tenets which they believed to be true, he did not see how it was possible to maintain the supremacy of the established form of religion—to maintain the mode of worship and instruction to which the noble lord referred, and at the same time to satisfy the views of those who would, of course, require that nothing should be done which would have the effect of withdrawing their children from one community to another. (Hear, hear.) It was not, therefore, from any jealousy with regard to the presence of Dissenters that he was not an advocate for removing the existing tests, but it was with a view to maintain that mode of instruction, and those religious principles in the University, which he thought formed a just object of preservation to every statesman desirous of maintaining the National Church. (Hear, hear.) But the hon. member for Rochdale (Mr. Miall) contended that the Universities, being a national institution, should include and admit all Dissenters. Well, the hon. member was quite consistent in that opinion, because he was one of those who wished to abolish the National Church. (Hear.) That, however, was not the

principle of the present bill, and was not the law or the policy of this country. (Hear.) We possessed a National Church; and, that being so, there was no inconsistency in saying, that a nation which had a National Church should also desire to have Universities in which the instruction given should be in accordance with the religion of that Church. (Hear, hear.) If that could be done, and if, at the same time, Dissenters could come and partake of the advantages which those Universities afforded, he should be most happy to see them do so. If they required that the religious element, which formed the basis of the educational system there, should be applied in the manner the least possibly offensive to them, let it be so; but he could not, as a citizen of the State, and as a member of the Church of England, consent to the principle that, for the sake of making the University include the children of Dissenters, it should be stripped of that which was its greatest boast and ornament—its connexion with the Church of England and the religious principle which governed it. (Cheers.)

Mr. HEYWOOD much regretted that Government had not included in their measure a clause for enlarging the boundaries of the University with regard to the admission of other parties not members of the Church of England. (Hear, hear.) A civilized person would hardly believe that a student had to sign thirty-nine articles which he had, perhaps, never seen or heard of before, and which he probably knew nothing about, except that his clergyman believed in them, and, possibly, some members of his family also. The great objection, however, appeared to him to be in the subsequent part of the career of a student at Oxford. Every student was compelled to learn by heart the Thirty-nine Articles, and to be able to prove them from Scripture, and it was entirely out of the question that Dissenters should be placed under a similar necessity. Without any such regulation being enforced, there was no reason why the system of the Church of England might not be carried out in its full integrity in the case of those persons who were intended in after life to take holy orders. These tests were kept up at the present day with the view of preserving a high standard of morality, but he did not believe that the standard of morality in the English Universities was at all higher than that of the Universities in Germany and the United States of America, where no such tests were imposed. He believed that one great error in the University system of this country was the compulsory celibacy of the fellows of colleges, and that it was desirous to abolish such a regulation. With regard to the extension of the system of education to the study of modern languages, it was at present occasionally melancholy to observe the ignorance of Oxford and Cambridge men with regard to them; and, indeed, he believed that, in the mercantile community, there existed a greater amount of knowledge upon modern subjects than among those persons who had had the advantage of an education at the old Universities. It was his intention to move a clause to the bill for the purpose of throwing open matriculation and graduation to the whole British people. (Hear, hear.) He should have been glad if the Government had taken that part of the question into their hands, but as he did not feel satisfied that it was a subject which ought to be dealt with by a separate bill, he should, when the opportunity arrived, move a clause which would do away with restrictions which he deemed to be not only useless, but injurious. (Hear.)

Mr. GLADSTONE rejoiced to find that the subject would be discussed in no party spirit. Respecting the matters of detail, on which remarks had been made, he recommended the House to suspend its judgment until the bill was fairly before them. The introduction of a clause for admitting Dissenters, which Mr. Heywood had suggested, he declared his intention of meeting with a negative when the proper time came, and proceeded to defend the measure upon two essential points—the interference with the independence of the University, and the diversion of collegiate properties.

Mr. J. G. PHILLIMORE condemned the proposal to tamper with the provisions of founders' wills. He regretted that the noble lord had not flung open the Universities to every English citizen (hear, hear), as this would have been a most favourable occasion for adopting a measure which was founded upon justice, and which would have aided so directly the great object of national education.

Mr. NEWDEGATE denounced the attempt to interfere with the self-governing and self-reforming action of the University, which was an ancient corporation, with full powers of legislating with regard to its own internal regulations, subject to the concurrence of the Crown.

Leave was then given, and the bill being brought in, was read a first time.

THE FOREIGN-OFFICE CLERK.

In the House of Lords, on Friday, the Earl of MALMESBURY read a letter from Mr. Hugh F. L. Astley, formerly a clerk in the Foreign Office, and alluded to by Lord Aberdeen as having gossiped about the contents of the Russian confidential correspondence. Mr. Astley knew nothing of the contents of the papers, and had not the slightest recollection of having ever divulged the secrets of the Foreign Office in any way.

The Earl of ABERDEEN, having formerly offered to leave it to Mr. Astley himself to settle the question, felt bound to accept his explanation, and to express, very sincerely, regret that he had been the means of casting any aspersion on the gentleman's character; and he offered to state to Lord Malmesbury the grounds on which he had previously been morally convinced that Mr. Astley had spoken unguardedly on the subject.

The Earl of DERBY seized the occasion to make a fresh attack upon the *Times* for divulging Cabinet secrets; and he declared, that if the case should again occur, he would bring the matter before the Lords, and endeavour to extract from the parties themselves the mode in which they obtain possession of such information.

[In reference to this speech, the *Times* of the follow-

ing morning casts back a defiance; asks Lord Derby whether he remembers the transactions in which he and Lord Malmesbury thought fit to engage "with Russia, Austria, and Prussia, at the time of the accession of Louis Napoleon to the Imperial throne;" leaves "these noble persons" to settle which of the members or adherents of the Derby Administration brought the circumstances within the cognizance of the *Times*; and declares that it has shown more "forbearance" to Lord Derby than he deserved.]

NEUTRAL VESSELS DURING WAR.

In the House of Commons, on Friday, Mr. M. GIBSON moved an address, praying her Majesty to give special instructions to the officers commanding her Majesty's cruisers, in the event of war, to abstain from interfering with neutral vessels on account of any goods or property not contraband of war, contained therein; and to direct her Ministers to consider the policy of entering into treaty stipulations with foreign countries on the principle that free ships shall make free goods, and the neutral flag give neutrality to the cargo. His object was, he said, that the country should be put in possession of the decision to which the Government must have come as to the course they will take respecting the rights of neutrals. He pointed out the embarrassments, the risks, and the expenditure attending the uncertainty of international law concerning those rights and the rights of belligerents, and he strongly urged the non-exercise of the power of searching neutral ships for enemy's property. The question as to the rights of neutral flags had already involved this country in war, and we had, in former times, recognised by treaty the principle that free ships make free goods.

Mr. HORSFALL, in seconding the motion, called the attention of the Government also to the kindred subject of privateering and letters of marque.

Lord J. RUSSELL said it was the intention of the Government to advise her Majesty, before hostilities took place, and he hoped shortly to issue, in some shape or other, a document declaring their policy in this matter; but it was obvious that a document of this kind, involving questions of policy as well as law, required very great care in the wording. Any incautious expression might be attended with very serious consequences.

Mr. BRIGHT observed, that Lord John Russell had taken no notice of the latter part of the motion, the importance of which, as respected the United States of America, he pressed very strongly upon the Government.

Lord J. RUSSELL said the Government were fully aware of the great importance of the subject referred to, but he thought they had some claim to forbearance. Mr. GIBSON withdrew his motion.

MINISTERS' MONEY, &c. (IRELAND) BILL.

On the order of the day for the second reading of this bill on Monday,

Mr. MIALI moved as an amendment, that the bill be read a second time that day six months. He said, the House was already in possession of ample information with regard to the tax of ministers' money—an impost which might be described as an Irish Church-rate with aggravations. The excuse urged in behalf of Church-rates in England, that they had existed from time immemorial, could not be alleged in favour of ministers' money, which was a tax of comparatively recent date, having been imposed by statute in the reign of Charles II. That tax was a badge of conquest and of degradation to the Roman Catholic population of Ireland; it was perfectly unnecessary to the carrying out of the establishment principle in Ireland; it was extremely partial in its operation; and it fell chiefly upon persons whose religious belief was diametrically opposed to the creed which the tax was intended to support. He regarded the tax as both impolitic and unjust, and, as the amount derived from it was extremely small, and there was a strong feeling in favour of the total repeal of the impost, he hoped the Government would not press this bill, which was intended simply to effect a compromise. The right hon. gentleman who introduced the bill had alleged as a reason for not proposing the total repeal of the tax, the inviolability of Church property, but he (Mr. Miall) considered that a tax levied for the support of a church or the maintenance of divine worship under an act of Parliament, could scarcely with propriety be denominated property, for such a tax might at any time be repealed by the Legislature. He did not, indeed, understand how they could speak of Church property as distinguished from the property of the nation at all, any more than they could speak of the ships which had gone to the Baltic, or the arms of the soldiers who had gone to the Mediterranean, as the property of the Admiralty, or of the Horse Guards. The Established Church was not a distinct corporation apart from the people of these realms; but it was rather, as Hooker said, the people of this realm in their ecclesiastical capacity. (Cheers.) If, however, this tax was to be regarded as Church property, he still thought it was completely within the power of the House to deal with it as they pleased, and that, too, on principles of the most perfect equity. The right hon. gentleman, by introducing a bill which gave up part of this impost, thereby admitted that there was a real grievance complained of, and that the character of the tax was one of great injustice. He (Mr. Miall) conceived that, so long as a church set at nought the principles of justice, it was perfectly vain to expect that the spiritual influence of that church upon the people would be what it ought to be, and what it was designed to be. He believed that not only did the Church suffer, but that religion itself also suffered, from the mode of quartering the ministers of religion upon the resources of persons whom they were intending and hoping to convert. Only last week, while he (Mr. Miall) was engaged in attending to his duties in that House, three persons, a policeman and two brokers, entered his domicile; they brought with them a warrant from a magistrate; and, as he (Mr. Miall) happened to be one of those unfortunate individuals who had a conscientious objection to the

payment of Church-rates, they seized what furniture they could, put it into a cart, and drove off with it. Now, without considering what effect such acts were calculated to produce upon the minds of the victims, he would ask what effect they must have upon the minds of the men who were engaged in these transactions? Were such occurrences likely to increase their reverence for religion or its ministers? He hoped, therefore, that the House would show its desire to get rid of these inconvenient and irritating questions by supporting the amendment he had proposed.

Mr. HUME, in seconding the amendment, expressed his regret that the Government evinced so little disposition to allay the excitement and irritation which were occasioned by this description of taxation. In the days of Charles, when cities and towns of Ireland and the city of Edinburgh were saddled with taxes of this nature, the number of Dissenters was small; but he called upon the Government to consider the number of individuals at present who, as Dissenters, objected on conscientious grounds to the imposition of these rates. He hoped that the Government, seeing the excitement and discontent occasioned by such taxes, would consider whether it was right or politic to raise by these means a paltry sum of £14,000 or £15,000 a year, when there were large surplus revenues belonging to the Church.

The House then divided, when the numbers were—
For the bill 203
Against it 97
Majority 106

The bill was then read a second time.

COLONIAL CLERGY DISABILITIES BILL.

On the motion for the second reading of this bill on Monday, Mr. HADFIELD moved that the bill be read a second time that day six months. He was surprised that the Government should have brought it in after the manner in which a similar measure had been rejected last year. If the colonial clergy were merely missionaries employed in declaring the truths of Christianity to the people of the colonies, there could be no objection to the bill; but here was a liberty proposed to be given to the clergy of the colonies which was altogether withheld from the clergy at home. If there was one thing of which the colonies were more jealous than another, it was any attempt at interference with their ecclesiastical and spiritual affairs. The people of the colonies were apprehensive that this bill was not intended for purely spiritual purposes, and he warned the House not to meddle with such a ticklish question. It was a well-known fact, that the rupture between the United States and this country was a jealousy that the legislature intended to introduce some measure that would be incompatible with their perfect religious equality. He was an advocate for extending to all classes of her Majesty's subjects the fullest freedom in religious matters. He could not understand the true meaning of this bill; there was a great deal of mystery about it. The clergy and laity were to meet to make regulations, but the act was not to give any legal effect to their proceedings, leaving the inference, that effect was to be given them by some powers or prescription claimed by the Church. Rather than the experiment should be tried in the colony, he would prefer to see it discussed as affecting the country at large. Its only effect would be to dissatisfy the colonists, and be extremely injurious both to them and this country.

The motion having been seconded by Mr. PHILLIPS, Sir J. PAKINGTON could not support the amendment. The colonists desired, in the first place, local freedom of action in church matters; secondly, to keep up their connexion with the United Church of England and Ireland; and the question arose whether this bill would effect both these objects. Although short and simple, professing no more than to repeal existing liabilities, it had excited considerable alarm, and when the bill was committed he should move several other important amendments.

Mr. WARNER thought that, when last year the Parliament of this country had passed the measure by which the controul of the clergy reserves in Canada had been given to the local Legislature, we had announced our determination not further to interfere in the church affairs of our colonies. At all events, whether Parliament would or not, they would be forced sooner or later to carry out that principle. (Hear.) He believed this bill would be grossly abused. The clergy of the Church of England, both in the colonies and elsewhere, had determined to rule without the laity, and their authority, he feared, was sure to be misused. (Hear.)

Mr. R. PHILLIMORE said it was because this bill recognized the Church of England in the colonies as a voluntary association, and removed, as an act of simple justice, disabilities now existing, that he gave his support to this bill.

Mr. HUME asked for a distinct explanation of the necessity for and the real object of the bill. Explanations upon particular points were likewise sought by Mr. WIGRAM and Sir G. GREY.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL, in order to show the necessity of this measure, repeated what he had stated when he asked for leave to introduce the bill—namely, that the effect, though not the intention, of the existing law, under statutes of Henry VIII. and Elizabeth, was to impose upon the Church of England in the colonies disabilities which restrained it from the same free action which was enjoyed by other religious communities there; and he repeated, likewise, that the bill conferred no new or binding powers, but merely removed impediments to voluntary action. He then gave explanations upon the particular points respecting which information was desired.

Mr. T. CHAMBERS opposed the bill. If the Church was a free church, the bill was utterly unnecessary; indeed, it could not be more necessary than it would be to pass an act enabling the Wesleyan Methodists to hold meetings. (Hear.) The hon. and learned Solicitor-General had stated that a statute of Henry VIII., confirmed by a subsequent statute of Elizabeth,

bound the clergy not to hold meetings without the consent of the Crown, and that this obligation extended now to the colonies; but it appeared to him, from the bill itself, that it was not very clear where the disability existed. He should have expected to find set forth in the preamble the statutes which imposed the disability which it was devised to remove, but no single statute was referred to at all. The preamble stated that "whereas by reason of the laws, statutes, and ordinances which affect or bind the bishops and clergy of the United Church of England and Ireland, doubts may exist." Doubts may exist! Why, when was there ever a statute passed about which such doubts might not be predicated? (Hear, hear.) In his opinion, if the bishops and clergy in the colonies were under a disability in consequence of these statutes, that disability ought not to be removed; and, if they were not, the proposed measure was wholly unnecessary, and the present time was most inopportune for its introduction. To remove a supposititious disability, it would establish a fatal precedent. The right hon. baronet, the member for Droitwich, had stated there should be a power of appeal from the colonial church to the church at home, but to allow such an appeal would, in his opinion, be a most mischievous error. He did not consider that the United Church of England and Ireland was wanted in the colonies, but that the Colonial Church ought to be an independent Episcopal Church, forming an integral part of the colonial institutions; but if a right of appeal from the Colonial Church to the Church in England were allowed, it would be a fruitful source of discord between the colonies and the mother country. (Hear.)

Mr. MOWBRAY supported the bill, which was opposed by Mr. KINNARD. Mr. NAPIER preferred the bill of last session.

Mr. WALPOLE said, the grievances and disabilities of the colonial clergy had been acknowledged, and this bill was a very simple one; but he thought clauses might be introduced that, while its object would be fully effected, might guard the supremacy of the Crown and the Act of Uniformity. When a palpable grievance existed, he could not conceive how hon. members could wish to vote against the second reading of the bill, unless, indeed, those who dissented from the Church were determined to withhold from it that freedom which they claimed for themselves. (Hear.) Such a course of conduct would recall to mind a period in the history of England when those who differed from the Church, having gained the upper hand, on the plea of religious liberty, deprived the members of the Church of England of the use of their prayer-book. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. MIALL said, it would be extremely grateful to his feelings on all occasions to extend the liberties of any religious denomination, even of that which he thought inflicted on the Dissenters of this country great injustice and wrong; but when it was said that the Church of England in the colonies desired to be placed simply on a footing of equality with voluntary bodies, then he asked whether it would be also placed upon an equality with the Church at home, in respect to privileges in the State? It was because there was a political connection between the two churches that the present bill was required; for if that were not so, the Church in the colonies would have, without any measure of this kind, all the liberty which any other voluntary association enjoyed.

Lord J. RUSSELL remarked, that the hon. and learned member for Hertford said that he was quite willing to consent to a bill of this kind if the Church in the colonies were entirely a colonial Church, confined in its operation to the colonies, and separated from the Church of England. That, however, would not be a position like that of other religious communities in the colonies. The Church of Rome in the colonies had its own meetings and regulations, but they were subject to the sanction of the Roman Catholic Church in Europe. Again, the Church of Scotland in the colonies, and, he imagined, the Free Church also, had their assemblies, but they had very important relations—one with the Assembly of the Church sitting in Scotland, and the other with the Assembly of the Free Church. So, in like manner, the Wesleyan body in the colonies had their meetings and their conferences; but they were connected with the Wesleyans in this country, and Wesleyans are often sent from here in order to take part in the colonial conferences. Would it be just, then, that the members of the Church of England in the colonies should be prohibited from any connexion with the Church of England in this country? The hon. gentleman who spoke last implied that he would vote for the present bill if there were not a political connexion between the two Churches. Now, he (Lord J. Russell) believed that no such political connexion existed between the Church of England established in the colonies and the Church in this country; and, in his opinion, the only tie connecting them consisted in their general accord with respect to matters of doctrine and faith, and the appointment of the colonial bishops by the Crown in this country. It seemed to him, therefore, that it was right to relieve members of the English Church in the colonies from these disabilities now attaching to them, while it was quite right to maintain the disabilities in England, because here the Established Church was connected with the State, and it was quite right that the State should have the existing controul over the members of the Established Church. (Hear.) Upon a division, the second reading was carried by 196 against 62.

BRIBERY AT ELECTIONS.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved for leave to bring in a series of bills for the prevention of bribery in the election of members to serve in Parliament for the city of Canterbury and the boroughs of Cambridge, Barnstable, Hull, and Maldon. He read extracts from the reports of the commissioners showing, as the result of their inquiries, the nature and extent of the

systematic corruption, direct and indirect, sometimes open and ostentatious, practised at elections at these several places, dwelling with most particularity upon the perfect organization to which it had been reduced at Cambridge, where, according to the commissioners, corrupt practices had subsisted, in an unbroken chain, for many years past. It was clear, he observed, that the state of these constituencies was a reproach and scandal, not only to themselves, but to their representatives and to the country; and, if anything could be done to purify them, it was the duty of Parliament to do it. Then the question was, what course should be pursued? He believed that general legislation would not suffice in such cases; that recourse must be had to special legislation, by total or partial disfranchisement; and that the course most consistent with justice and the commonweal, was to remove the corrupt portion of the constituency and retain the sound. He proposed, therefore, to disqualify those whom the commissioners had named in their report. He denied that a plenary indemnity had been promised to witnesses who admitted their guilt; he was of opinion, although he submitted this question to the decision of the House, that in point of law, as well as reason, the guarantee extended only to penal consequences.

The measure gave rise to considerable discussion. Mr. CAIRNS urged that the guilt of the electors whom the bill would disfranchise could be shown only by their own evidence, and that this evidence had been given under a Parliamentary guarantee of impunity to the witnesses. Sir J. HAMMER also thought it an unjust proceeding to induce men to confess their faults by a promise of condonation, and then to punish them after all.

The question, whether the terms of the Indemnity Act for witnesses examined before election commissions of inquiries did, or not, contain a provision which the bills now before the House would violate, was discussed at some length. Mr. PHINN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. MASSEY, and the SOLICITOR-GENERAL contended for the negative view of the case. Mr. NAPIER, Mr. WHITESIDE, Mr. WALPOLE, and other members sustained the affirmative; arguing that, however anxious the House might be to put down corruption, it was a duty still more paramount to keep faith with individuals. The ATTORNEY-GENERAL replied, and alluded, in the course of his remarks, to the silence of the member for East Suffolk during the debate. Sir F. KELLY, thus challenged, re-opened the legal arguments regarding the interpretation of the Indemnity Act, and contended that its tenor was so ambiguous as to warrant the witnesses in relying upon the most perfect impunity, and to render it unjust for the House to visit them by a retrospective act with pains and penalties.

The House having divided, the motion was carried by 189 to 118, and leave was given to bring in the bill.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.

Mr. DISRAELI asked, on Thursday, "whether any official information, that renewed propositions for the settlement of the misunderstanding in the East, had been submitted to her Majesty's Minister at Vienna?"

Lord JOHN RUSSELL answered, "that no proposition of the kind has been submitted to her Majesty's Minister at Vienna."

On the order of the day being read for going into Committee of Ways and Means, on Monday, Mr. LAYARD said, he had given notice of his intention to put a question to the Government with reference to the state of affairs in the East; but, if he put that question without prefacing it with some remarks explaining his reasons for asking it, he would probably receive an unsatisfactory answer. The House, perhaps, might think it desirable that an opportunity should be afforded for digesting the most extraordinary and important papers which had been recently laid upon the table, and he would therefore postpone his question to a future day.

THE INCOME TAX.

In the House of Commons, on Friday, after the acrimonious discussion relative to the case of Mr. Stonor, the House went into a Committee of Ways and Means, for the consideration of the resolution already moved by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, to the effect, that there should be raised for the year commencing on the 6th of April, 1854, for and in respect of property, &c., chargeable for the year, with the duties granted by the act 16th and 17th of Victoria, chap. 34, additional duties, amounting to one moiety of the duties charged by the act for the year, and that that the whole amount of the additional duties shall be collected and paid with, and over and above, the first moiety of the duties charged by the act for the year.

After a short debate, upon an amendment moved by Mr. Hume (but afterwards withdrawn), which would have made a tax of 5d. in the pound attach upon incomes between £60 and £100, the chairman was ordered to report progress.

On Monday, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, without adding a word of remark, moved the resolution increasing the tariff of income-tax.

Notice of an amendment to this resolution had been given by Sir H. Willoughby, but the hon. baronet did not appear at the moment.

Mr. FRENCH said, that he believed the hon. member for Evesham (Sir H. Willoughby), who had given notice of an amendment, was in the immediate neighbourhood of the House. (Cries of "Order!") He hoped the chairman would be good enough to look to the other side of the house, where an hon. member had risen. (Renewed calls of "Order!")

The CHAIRMAN then put the question upon the resolution, and there were some shouts of "No," upon which the galleries below the bar were cleared, and the usual preparations were made for a division. The question was then again put, but the hon. gentlemen who had previously called "No" were silent, and the Chairman accordingly declared the resolution carried, the announcement being received with considerable

laughter from the Ministerial side. [Sir H. Willoughby entered the House soon afterwards, during the speech of Mr. Miall on Ministers' Money, and was greeted with loud laughter and cheering.]

Sir H. Willoughby subsequently gave notice that he should move his amendment on the bringing up of the report.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The select committee to inquire into the petition of Mr. Somers, with respect to the Sligo election, have reported that the main allegations of that petition are proved; that an attempt was made by the two Simpsons and Gethin, an attorney, to bribe the sureties to make false statements with regard to their property, in order that they might withdraw their recognizances; that the evidence given by the Simpsons and by Gethin was by its evasiveness and inconsistency disgraceful to them; that their conduct deserves the serious animadversions of the House; and that Mr. Sadler was not personally implicated in or cognizant of the proceedings. In reply to Mr. Seymour, on Monday, Lord J. Russell, expressed an opinion that the best course for the House to pursue, with respect to the parties specially mentioned in the report of the Sligo Election Recognizances Committee, would be to direct the Attorney-General for Ireland to institute prosecutions against them.

Mr. T. Chambers proposes the following as the select committee on Conventual and Monastic Institutions:—Mr. T. Chambers, Mr. Walpole, Mr. Kinnaird, Mr. Horsfall, Mr. Shirley, the Marquis of Stafford, Mr. Pagah, Mr. Drummond, Mr. J. Fitzgerald, Mr. R. Phillimore, Mr. J. Ball, Mr. Whiteside, Mr. Dunlop, Mr. Newdegate, and Mr. Napier.

In the House of Lords, on Thursday, Lord STANLEY OF ALDERLEY moved the second reading of the Coasting Trade Bill, which he showed to be necessary in order to carry out the principle of the Act repealing the Navigation-laws. That measure, their lordships would be pleased to learn, had proved a great boon to the shipping trade. After some discussion, the second reading was agreed to.

Mr. PEEL, on Thursday, explained that the appointment of Mr. Stonor to a puisne judgeship at Melbourne had taken place in ignorance of his connexion with the transactions of the Sligo election, and that it had been cancelled. On Friday the subject was again brought on, and gave rise to an Irish row. In the course of the discussion, the conduct of the Colonial Office in this transaction was severely animadverted upon by Mr. WHITESIDE, Mr. BOWYER, and Mr. MALINS. Mr. I. BUTT called the attention of Mr. Peel to circumstances which, he thought, fastened him with a previous notice of the objectionable nature of the appointment. Mr. SADLER, in vindicating himself from an accusation made against him, he said, in his absence, by Mr. Moore, and which he considered affected his honour and character, applied to that hon. member terms which he was compelled by the Speaker to retract.

Mr. EWART has obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend and extend an act for enabling town councils to establish libraries and museums freely open to the public.

In the House of Lords, on Monday, in reply to Earl GREY, Viscount CANNING stated that the postage of letters addressed to officers on service in the Baltic would be reduced from 1s. 8d. to 6d. per half-ounce. Coupling this reduction with the fact, that letters to the seamen and private soldiers were only charged at 1d. the half-ounce, there would be no reason to complain of exorbitance on the part of the Post Office.

To a question from Mr. HUME, Lord J. RUSSELL stated that the Government believed that the improvements required in the administration of India should be devised and accomplished by the local Government, and they did not therefore intend to reappoint the select committee of that House to inquire into the subject.

Several bills on the paper were, on Monday, postponed to future days—the Oaths Bill (second reading) to the 31st inst., the Settlement and Poor Removal Bill (second reading) until Friday next, the Stamp Duties (Committee) until Monday, the 3rd of April.

On Friday Mr. T. S. DUNCOMBE asked whether, in the event of war taking place, the purchase of Russian produce would become illegal, and whether it would be liable to seizure on its transit overland, *via* Königsberg, to England; or would Russian produce purchased by the subjects of any neutral state, and repurchased of them by English merchants, be illegal, or liable to seizure on its transit from such neutral state to the port of London. Lord JOHN RUSSELL did not know how Russian produce, sent overland, could become liable to seizure. With regard to the second question, it was quite impossible to give a general answer. Mr. DUNCOMBE wished to explain how the traffic might be carried on overland. For instance, suppose a Prussian subject able to purchase property in Russia—in point of fact, to become a Russian agent—he might carry on a trade which England prohibited to her own subjects. He wished to know whether that source of traffic was to be left open? Lord JOHN RUSSELL replied that, while such goods were in Russian territory, they were not subject to British authority. If they were on the high seas, or in this country, then it would be a question for the Court of Admiralty to decide.

PROTESTANT DISSENTING DEPUTIES.

On Friday, a Special General Meeting of the Protestant Dissenting Deputies was held at the Guildhall Hotel, King-street, Chesham. Among the Deputies present were S. M. Peto, Esq., M.P., the Chairman; J. R. Mills, Esq.; Mr. Deputy Pewtress, one of the Vice-Chairmen; and Messrs. Josiah Conder, Benjamin Hanbury, Samuel Morley, Charles Reed, G. Briscoe, and Carvell Williams. Mr. Apsley Pellatt, M.P., was

present at the Committee, but was compelled to leave before the business of the day formally commenced.

S. M. Peto, Esq., M.P. occupied the chair, and briefly introduced the proceedings by observing, that they had reason to congratulate themselves as Protestant Nonconformists on several grounds, particularly with reference to the reception of the Manchester and Salford Education Bill in the House of Commons. Within the House itself, a committee of fifty members had been formed "for the advancement of religious liberty, with especial reference to the rights of Protestant Dissenters." They had also on that committee, Dr. Foster, (hear, hear,) and Mr. Field, and their own excellent secretary acted as honorary secretary to that committee. (Hear, hear.) This committee met every Wednesday to discuss all questions affecting the rights of Dissenters, and the progress of civil and religious liberty. One of their acts had been to get up a Memorial, signed by 102 members, which they had presented to Lord John Russell, on the subject of the Universities. They had also had a communication with Lord Palmerston on the subject of Church-rates, of which they sought the entire abolition. (Cheers.) He was sure he need not say one word on the importance of such a Committee. On this subject of Church-rates they had but one opinion—nothing but the entire abolition would satisfy any member of that committee; and their general feeling was, that it was for them to seek the abolition of Church-rates, leaving it to Churchmen themselves to propose and provide any remedy which might be found necessary to make good the loss to the Church. (Hear, hear.) They had formed a sub-committee with a view to the examination of all laws affecting Nonconformists, in order to effect the removal of that anomaly "toleration." (Hear, hear.) They would be asked to sign petitions for the abolition of Church-rates, against the Burial Bills, and in favour of the Dissenters' Marriage Act Amendment Bill. Every day he lived he felt more firmly than ever the vitality of their principles, and the certainty of their ultimate success. All they wanted was, that the world should rightly understand them; for then they felt that it would be universally admitted, that they were asking nothing but what was right—nothing but what they as citizens might naturally be expected to ask—and they would be satisfied with nothing less. It was gratifying to him to see the quiet and earnest attention which these questions were now receiving in the House of Commons; and he did hope, that by the harmony of those of them who were in that House, that the day would speedily arrive when they would meet with their reward in the advancement of those great principles which they held dear. (Hear, hear.)

The chairman, vice-chairmen, and treasurer were then requested to continue their services, and the committee was elected by ballot.

On the motion of Mr. Josiah Conder, seconded by Mr. Benjamin Hanbury, a petition was adopted and signed, praying for the immediate abolition of Church-rates.

Mr. Samuel Morley then asked their consent to an expression of sympathy with fellow-Christians of the same faith and order who were suffering persecution in various Protestant States. He stated his firm belief in the perfect truthfulness of the statements which had been made by Mr. Hinton, Dr. Steane, and others on this subject, and concluded by moving the following resolution:—

1. That the Deputies having heard, from time to time, of alleged acts of religious intolerance in various parts of Germany, Switzerland, and Denmark, learn with a lively interest that an effort has recently been made to examine into the truth of these allegations, and to place the facts before the British public in an authentic and undeniable form.
2. That it appears, on unquestionable authority, that acts of intolerance have been perpetrated at the following places:—
I. In the city of Zurich, in Switzerland, where the Rev. Ferdinand Bue, pastor of a religious congregation, was, in May, 1853, by an arbitrary proceeding on the part of the police authorities, banished from the canton for life.
3. In the town of Hildburghausen, in the Duchy of Saxe-Meiningen, where a religious congregation has suffered under severe restrictions, a decree having been issued by the supreme Government absolutely prohibiting their meetings, and interdicting the visits of their pastor.
4. At Herford, in Hesse Cassel, where the members of a religious congregation have been forbidden, under penalty of fine or imprisonment, to meet any of their friends for religious purposes.
5. At Ludwigsburg, in Mecklenburg Schwerin, where Mr. Wegener, a religious missionary, was, on the 19th of May, 1853, sentenced to fourteen days' imprisonment, every other day on bread and water, for having administered Christian ordinances.
6. At Bückeburg, in the Principality of Schaumburg Lippe, where, in consequence of a decree of the Council of Government, several members of a religious congregation were, on the 26th of February, 1853, arrested and cast into prison.
7. At Bayreuth, in Bavaria, where, by an official act, all meetings of a religious congregation existing there are prohibited.
8. In the Duchies of Schleswig and Holstein, where strict orders had been issued interdicting assemblies for religious worship, and several persons have, for attending such assemblies, been imprisoned on bread and water.
9. That the Deputies feel the greater concern and shame at this recital, because these acts of intolerance, reprehensible in any circumstances, are perpetrated by Protestant Governments, and are directed not only by Protestants against their fellow Protestants, but against persons acknowledged on all hands to be of quiet and blameless life, and, on every other ground but their religious independence, worthy of respect.
10. That the Deputies, in view of the unequivocal testimony borne to the irreproachable character of the religious congregations in question, feel it at once their duty and privilege to cherish towards them a lively Christian regard, and to declare their conviction of the combined injustice and impolicy of the restrictions to which they are subjected.

The motion was seconded by Mr. JOSIAH CONDER, and, after some observations from Mr. PEWTRESS, was passed unanimously.

Mr. KILPIN read a petition which had been drawn up for presentation to Parliament, on the subject of Dissenters' marriages, and moved that it be adopted, and signed by the Deputies, in order to its being presented in their behalf. The motion was unanimously

* See a Pamphlet, entitled, "Protestant Persecutions in Switzerland and Germany," published by Partridge, Oakley, and Co. London. 1854.

agreed to, and the several petitions received the signatures of the Deputies present.

On the motion of Mr. SAMUEL MORLEY, a resolution of thanks was unanimously voted to the Chairman, and the proceedings terminated.

SECRET CORRESPONDENCE ON THE PARTITION OF TURKEY.

The papers laid before Parliament on Friday, and printed in the morning papers of Monday, quite fulfil public expectations of interesting disclosures. The documents are sixteen in number, and, with one exception, were written in the first four months of last year. The exceptional document is a memorandum by Count Nesselrode, delivered to the British Government as a record of communications held with them during the Czar's residence in England, in June 1844. It declares that Russia and England are "penetrated" by the common conviction of Turkey's importance to the present "political combination," and have an equal interest in averting the designs which threaten its independence. "With this object," it proceeds, "the essential point is to suffer the Porte to live in repose, without disturbing it by diplomatic bickerings, and without needlessly interfering without absolute necessity in its internal affairs." But "in order to carry out skilfully this system of forbearance," it is asserted two things are necessary—first, that the Porte be not encouraged by mutual jealousies in "its constant tendency to extricate itself from engagements;" and, secondly, to "make the Ottoman Ministers sensible that they can only reckon on the friendship and on the support of the Great Powers, on the condition that they treat the Christian subjects of the Porte with toleration and with mildness. While insisting on this truth," it is added, "it will be the duty of the foreign representatives, on the other hand, to exert all their influence to maintain the Christian subjects of the Porte in submission to the sovereign authority." Nevertheless, the Great Powers "must not conceal from themselves how many elements of dissolution" the Ottoman empire contains; and as the suddenness of events might prevent the effectual interposition of a friendly hand, a mutual agreement is desirable. In the uncertainty which hovers over the future, "a single fundamental idea seems to admit of a really practical application; it is, that the danger which may result from a catastrophe in Turkey will be much diminished, if, in the result of its occurring, Russia and England have come to an understanding as to the course to be taken by them in common. That understanding will be the more beneficial, inasmuch as it will have the full assent of Austria." In a subsequent portion of the letter, the object is stated to be "to enter into previous concert as to everything relating to the establishment of a new order of things intended to replace that which now exists, and in conjunction with each other to see that the change which may have occurred in the internal situation of that empire shall not injuriously affect either the security of their own states, and the rights which the treaties assure to them respectively, or the maintenance of the balance of power in Europe."

It is not till nearly ten years later that the subject is revived between the two Governments, and when a prominent member of the Cabinet of 1844 is resuming office as Prime Minister. On the 11th of January, 1853, our ambassador, Sir G. H. Seymour, met the Emperor at the Palace of the Grand Duchess Helen. The Emperor takes him aside to express his good wishes for the perpetuity of the new Government, and especially his regard for the Earl of Aberdeen, "with whom (he said) he had been acquainted for nearly forty years." He remarks to the ambassador how well they have agreed since he has been there; to which Sir George replies, that the question of "Napoleon No. III." was the only one on which they had differed. His Majesty promised to explain his views on that question on some early day.

In the meantime, the Emperor went on to say: I repeat that it is very essential that the two Governments—that is, the English Government and I, and I and the English Government—should be upon the best terms; and the necessity was never greater than at present. I beg you to convey these words to Lord John Russell. When we are agreed (*d'accord*), I am quite without anxiety as to the west of Europe; it is immaterial what the others may think or do. As to Turkey, that is another question: that country is in a critical state, and may give us all a great deal of trouble. And now I will take my leave of you, which his Majesty proceeded to do by shaking hands with me very graciously. It instantly occurred to me that the conversation was incomplete and might never be renewed, and, as the Emperor still held my hand, I said, Sir, with your gracious permission, I would desire to take a great liberty. Certainly, his Majesty replied—what is it—let me hear? Sir, I observed, your Majesty has been good enough to charge me with general assurances as to the identity of views between the two Cabinets, which assuredly have given me the greatest pleasure, and will be received with equal satisfaction in England; but I should be particularly glad that your Majesty should add a few words which may tend to calm the anxiety with regard to the affairs of Turkey, which passing events are so calculated to excite on the part of her Majesty's Government; perhaps you will be pleased to charge me with some additional assurances of this kind. The Emperor's words and manner, although still very kind, showed that his Majesty had no intention of speaking to me of the demonstration which he is about to make in the south. He said, however, at first with a little hesitation, but, as he proceeded, in an open and unhesitating manner—The affairs of Turkey are in a very disorganised condition. The country itself seems to be falling to pieces (*menace ruine*); the fall will be a great misfortune, and it is very important that England and Russia should come to a perfectly good understanding upon these affairs, and that neither should take any decisive step of which the other is not apprised. I observed, in a few words, that I rejoiced to hear that his Imperial

Majesty held this language; that this was certainly the view I took of the manner in which Turkish questions are to be treated. "Stay," the Emperor said, as if proceeding with his remark, "we have on our hands a sick man—a very sick man; it will be, I tell you frankly, a great misfortune if, one of these days, he should slip away from us, especially before all necessary arrangements were made. But, however, this is not the time to speak to you on that matter." It was clear that the Emperor did not intend to prolong the conversation; I therefore said, "Your Majesty is so gracious that you will allow me to make one further observation. Your Majesty says the man is sick; it is very true; but your Majesty will deign to excuse me if I remark, that it is the part of the generous and strong man to treat with gentleness the sick and feeble man." The Emperor then took leave of me in a manner which conveyed the impression of my having, at least, not given offence, and again expressed his intention of sending for me on some future day.

Sir George shows an astuteness equal to his promptitude. Of this conversation, he ventures to tell the Ministers at home.

The sum is probably this, that England has to desire a close concert with Russia, with a view to preventing the downfall of Turkey—while Russia would be well pleased that the concert should apply to the events by which this downfall is to be followed.

On the 14th of January, Sir George waited, by invitation, on the Emperor, and had a conversation, of which the following are the principal passages:—

He received me with great kindness, saying that I had appeared desirous to speak to him upon Eastern affairs; that on his side there was no indisposition to do so, but that he must begin at a remote period. You know, his Majesty said, the dreams and plans in which the Empress Catherine was in the habit of indulging; these were handed down to our time; but while I inherited immense territorial possessions, I did not inherit those visions—those intentions, if you like to call them so. On the contrary, my country is so vast, so happily circumstanced in every way, that it would be unreasonable in me to desire more territory or more power than I possess; on the contrary, I am the first to tell you that our great, perhaps our only danger, is that which would arise from an extension given to an empire already too large. Close to us lies Turkey, and in our present condition nothing better for our interests can be desired; the times had gone by when we had anything to fear from the fanatical spirit or the military enterprise of the Turks, and yet the country is strong enough, or has hitherto been strong enough, to preserve its independence, and to insure respectful treatment from other countries. Well, in that empire there are several millions of Christians whose interests I am called upon to watch over (*surveiller*), while the right of doing so is secured to me by treaty. I may truly say, that I make a moderate and sparing use of my right, and I will freely confess that it is one which is attended with obligations occasionally very inconvenient; but I cannot recede from the discharge of a distinct duty. Our religion, as established in this country, came to us from the East, and there are feelings, as well as obligations, which never must be lost sight of. Now Turkey, in the condition which I have described, has by degrees fallen into such a state of decrepitude, that, as I told you the other night, eager as we all are for the prolonged existence of the man (and that I am as desirous as you can be for the continuance of his life, I beg you to believe), he may suddenly die upon our hands; we cannot resuscitate what is dead; if the Turkish empire falls, it falls to rise no more; and I put it to you, therefore, whether it is not better to be provided beforehand for a contingency than to incur the chaos, confusion, and the certainty of an European war, all of which must attend the catastrophe if it should occur unexpectedly, and before some ulterior system has been sketched; this is the point to which I am desirous that you should call the attention of your Government.

Sir George intimated that his Government did not like anticipating events.

The rule is a good one, the Emperor replied—good at all times, especially in times of uncertainty and change, like the present; still it is of the greatest importance that we should understand one another, and not allow events to take us by surprise. "Now, I desire to speak to you as a friend and as a gentleman. If England and I arrive at an understanding of this matter, as regards the rest, it matters little to me; it is indifferent to me what others do or think. Frankly, then, I tell you plainly, that if England thinks of establishing herself one of these days at Constantinople I will not allow it. I do not attribute this intention to you, but it is better on these occasions to speak plainly; for my part, I am equally disposed to take the engagement not to establish myself there, as proprietor, that is to say, for as occupier I do not say; it might happen that circumstances, if no previous provision were made, if everything should be left to chance, might place me in the position of occupying Constantinople.

His Imperial Majesty then alluded to a conversation which he had held, the last time he was in England, with the Duke of Wellington, and to the motives which had compelled him to open himself to his Grace; then, as now, his Majesty was, he said, eager to provide against events which, in the absence of any concert, might compel him to act in a manner opposed to the views of her Majesty's Government.

The next in order of the documents is of sufficient importance, and is so characteristic of the writer, that it should be given entire:—

LORD JOHN RUSSELL TO SIR SIR G. H. SEYMOUR.
(Secret and confidential.)

Foreign-office, February 9, 1853.

Sir,—I have received, and laid before the Queen, your secret and confidential despatch of the 22nd of January. Her Majesty upon this, as upon former occasions, is happy to acknowledge the moderation, the frankness, and the friendly disposition of his Imperial Majesty. Her Majesty has directed me to reply in the same spirit of temperate, candid, and amicable discussion. The question raised by his Imperial Majesty is a very serious one. It is, supposing the contingency of the dissolution of the Turkish empire to be probable, or even imminent, whether it is not better to be provided beforehand for a contingency, than to incur the chaos, confusion, and the certainty of an European war, all of which must attend the catastrophe if it should occur unexpectedly, and before some ulterior system has been sketched; this is the point, said his Imperial Majesty, to which I am desirous that you should call the attention of your Government.

In considering the grave question, the first reflection which occurs to her Majesty's Government is, that no actual crisis has occurred which renders necessary a solution of this vast European problem. Disputes have arisen respecting the Holy Places, but these are without the sphere of the internal government of Turkey, and concern Russia and France rather than the sublime Porte. Some disturbance of the relations between Austria and the Porte has been caused by the Turkish attack on Montenegro; but this again relates rather to dangers affecting the frontier of Austria than the authority and safety of the Sultan; so that there is no sufficient cause for intimating to the Sultan that he cannot keep peace at home, or preserve friendly relations with his neighbours.

It occurs further to her Majesty's Government to remark, that the event which is contemplated is not definitely fixed in point of time. When William the Third and Louis the Fourteenth disposed, by treaty, of the succession of Charles the Second of Spain, they were providing for an event which could not be far off. The infirmities of the sovereign of Spain, and the certain end of any human life, made the contingency in prospect both sure and near. The death of the Spanish King was in no way hastened by the Treaty of Partition. The same thing may be said of the provision made in the last century for the disposal of Tuscany, upon the decease of the last prince of the house of Medici. But the contingency of the dissolution of the Ottoman empire is of another kind. It may happen twenty, fifty, or a hundred years hence. In these circumstances it would hardly be consistent with the friendly feelings towards the Sultan which animate the Emperor of Russia, no less than the Queen of Great Britain, to dispose beforehand of the provinces under his dominion.

Besides this consideration, however, it must be observed, that an agreement made in such a case tends very surely to hasten the contingency for which it is intended to provide. Austria and France could not, in fairness, be kept in ignorance of the transaction, nor would such concealment be consistent with the end of preventing an European war. Indeed, such concealment cannot be intended by his Imperial Majesty. It is to be inferred that, as soon as Great Britain and Russia should have agreed on the course to be pursued, and have determined to enforce it, they should communicate their intentions to the great Powers of Europe. An agreement thus made, and thus communicated, would not be very long a secret; and while it would alarm and alienate the Sultan, the knowledge of its existence would stimulate all his enemies to increased violence and more obstinate conflict. They would fight with the conviction that they must ultimately triumph; while the Sultan's generals and troops would feel that no immediate success could save their cause from final overthrow. Thus would be produced and strengthened that very anarchy which is now feared, and the foresight of the friends of the patient would prove the cause of his death.

Her Majesty's Government need scarcely enlarge on the dangers attendant on the execution of any similar convention. The example of the succession war is enough to show how little such agreements are respected when a pressing temptation urges their violation. The position of the Emperor of Russia as depositary, but not proprietor, of Constantinople, would be exposed to numberless hazards, both from the long-cherished ambition of his own nation, and the jealousies of Europe. The ultimate proprietor, whoever he might be, would hardly be satisfied with the inert, supine attitude of the heirs of Mahomet the Second. A great influence on the affairs of Europe seems naturally to belong to the Sovereign of Constantinople, holding the gates of the Mediterranean and the Black Sea. That influence might be used in favour of Russia; it might be used to control and curb her power. His Imperial Majesty has justly and wisely said:—My country is so vast, so happily circumstanced in every way, that it would be unreasonable in me to desire more territory or more power than I possess. On the contrary, he observed, our great, perhaps our only danger, is that which would arise from an extension given to an empire already too large. A vigorous and ambitious state, replacing the Sublime Porte, might, however, render war on the part of Russia a necessity for the Emperor or his successors. Thus European conflict would arise from the very means taken to prevent it; for neither England nor France, nor probably Austria, would be content to see Constantinople permanently in the hands of Russia. On the part of Great Britain, her Majesty's Government at once declare that they renounce all intention or wish to hold Constantinople. His Imperial Majesty may be quite secure upon this head. They are likewise ready to give an assurance that they will enter into no agreement to provide for the contingency of the fall of Turkey without previous communication with the Emperor of Russia. Upon the whole, then, her Majesty's Government are persuaded that no course of policy can be adopted more wise, more disinterested, more beneficial to Europe, than that which his Imperial Majesty has so long followed, and which will render his name more illustrious than that of the most famous sovereigns who have sought immortality by unprovoked conquest and ephemeral glory. With a view to the success of this policy, it is desirable that the utmost forbearance should be manifested towards Turkey; that any demands which the Great Powers of Europe may have to make should be made matter of friendly negotiation rather than of peremptory demand; that military and naval demonstrations to coerce the Sultan should as much as possible be avoided; that differences with respect to matters affecting Turkey, within the competence of the Sublime Porte, should be decided, after mutual concert between the Great Powers, and not be forced upon the weakness of the Turkish Government. To these cautions her Majesty's Government wish to add that, in their view, it is essential that the Sultan should be advised to treat his Christian subjects in conformity with the principles of equity and religious freedom which prevail generally among the enlightened nations of Europe. The more the Turkish Government adopts the rules of impartial law and equal administration, the less will the Emperor of Russia find it necessary to apply that exceptional protection which his Imperial Majesty has found so burdensome and inconvenient, though, no doubt, prescribed by duty and sanctioned by treaty. You may read this despatch to Count Nesselrode, and, if it is desired, you may yourself place a copy of it in the hands of the Emperor. In that case you will accompany its presentation with those assurances of friendship and confidence on the part of her Majesty the Queen, which the conduct of his Imperial Majesty was so sure to inspire.—I am, &c.

(Signed) J. RUSSELL.

Sir G. H. Seymour's next communication reports

that at a party at the Grand Duchess Hereditary's, on the night of Feb. 21, the Emperor was again very gracious, but expressed his disappointment at the tone of the response (which he had learned from Nesselrode). "I will tell you, that if your Government has been led to believe that Turkey retains any elements of existence, your Government must have received very incorrect information. I repeat to you that the sick man is dying; and we can never allow such an event to take us by surprise. We must come to some understanding; and this we should do, I am convinced, if I could but hold ten minutes' conversation with your Ministers—with Lord Aberdeen, for instance, who knows me so well, who has full confidence in me, as I have in him." An interview was appointed for the next day.

At this interview, the conversation lasted an hour and twelve minutes, the Emperor commenting on the despatch as the ambassador read it:—

I proceeded to read, and was again stopped at the sentence beginning "In these circumstances it would hardly be consistent with the friendly feelings," when the Emperor observed, that her Majesty's Government did not appear to be aware, that his chief object was to obtain from her Majesty's Government some declaration, or even opinion, of what ought not to be permitted in the event of the sudden downfall of Turkey. I said, Perhaps your Majesty would be good enough to explain your own ideas upon this negative policy. This his Majesty for some time declined doing; he ended, however, by saying, Well, there are several things which I never will tolerate; I will begin with ourselves; I will not tolerate the permanent occupation of Constantinople by the Russians; having said this, I will say that it never shall be held by the English, or French, or any other great nation. Again, I never will permit an attempt at the reconstruction of a Byzantine empire, or such an extension of Greece as would render her a powerful state; still less will I permit the breaking up of Turkey into little republics, asylums for the Kossuths and Mazzinis, and other revolutionists of Europe; rather than submit to any of these arrangements I would go to war, and as long as I have a man and a musket left would carry it on. These, the Emperor said, are at once some ideas; now, give me some in return.

I remarked upon the assurance which would be found respecting the English resolution of never attempting to possess Constantinople, and upon the disinclination of her Majesty's Government to enter into eventual arrangements; but upon being still pressed by his Imperial Majesty, I said: Well, sir, the idea may not suit your Majesty, may not suit your Majesty's Government, but what is good between man and man is often a good system between one state and another. How would it be if, in the event of any catastrophe occurring in Turkey, Russia and England were to declare that no power should be allowed to take possession of its provinces—that the property should remain, as it were, under seals until amicable arrangements could be made as to its adjudication? I will not say, the Emperor observed, that such a course would be impossible, but, at least, it would be very difficult; there are no elements of provincial or communal government in Turkey; you would have Turks attacking Christians, Christians falling upon Turks, Christians of different sects quarrelling with each other; in short, chaos and anarchy.

Sir, I then observed, if your Majesty will allow me to speak plainly, I would say that the great difference between us is this: that you continue to dwell upon the fall of Turkey, and the arrangements necessary before and after fall; and that we, on the contrary, look to Turkey remaining where she is, and to the precautions which are necessary for preventing her condition from becoming worse.

Ah! replied the Emperor, that is what the Chancellor is perpetually telling me, but the catastrophe will occur some day, and will take us all unawares. His Imperial Majesty spoke of France. God forbid, he said, that I should accuse any one wrongfully, but there are circumstances both at Constantinople and Montenegro which are extremely suspicious; it looks very much as if the French Government were endeavouring to embroil us all in the East, hoping in this way the better to arrive at their own objects, one of which, no doubt, is the possession of Tunis. The Emperor proceeded to say, that for his own part he cared very little what line the French might think proper to take in Eastern affairs, and that little more than a month ago he had apprised the Sultan that if his assistance were required for resisting the menaces of the French, it was entirely at the service of the Sultan! In a word, the Emperor went on to observe—As I before told you, all I want is a good understanding with England, and this is not as to what shall, but as to what shall not be done; this point arrived at, the English Government and I, I and the English Government, having entire confidence in one another's views, I care nothing about the rest. I remarked that I felt confident that her Majesty's Government would be as little disposed as his Imperial Majesty to tolerate the presence of the French at Constantinople; and being desirous, if possible, of ascertaining whether there was any understanding between the Cabinets of St. Petersburg and Vienna, I added—But your Majesty has forgotten Austria; now all these Eastern questions affect her very nearly; she of course would expect to be consulted. Oh! replied the Emperor, greatly to my surprise, but you must understand that when I speak of Russia I speak of Austria as well; what suits the one suits the other; our interests as regards Turkey are perfectly identical. I should have been glad to have made another inquiry or two upon this subject, but I did not venture to do so.

I ought to have stated, that in a preceding part of the conversation, his Majesty, although without any appearance of anger, expressed some surprise at an expression in your lordship's despatch, "the long-cherished ambition of his (the Emperor's) own nation." He would ask what that phrase meant? It happened that I was prepared for the surprise expressed, and ready to answer any reflection which it might call forth. Sir, I said, Lord John Russell is not speaking of your ambition—he speaks of that entertained by your people. The Emperor could not at first admit that the phrase was applicable to the Russian nation any more than to himself; when I said, your Majesty will permit me to remark that Lord John Russell only repeats what was said thirty years ago by your brother, of glorious memory. In writing confidentially to Lord Castlereagh, in the year 1822, the Emperor Alexander spoke of being the only Russian who resisted the views of his subjects upon Turkey, and of the loss of popularity which he had sustained by this antagonism. This quotation, which, by

accident, I could make almost in the words of the letter, seemed to change the current of the Emperor's ideas. You are quite right, he said; I remember the events to which my late brother alluded. Now it is perfectly true that the Empress Catherine indulged in all sorts of visions of ambition, but it is not less so that these ideas are not at all shared by her descendants. You see how I am behaving towards the Sultan. This gentleman (*ce monsieur*) breaks his written word to me, and acts in a manner exceedingly displeasing to me; and I have contented myself with despatching an ambassador to Constantinople to demand reparation; certainly, I could send an army there if I chose—there is nothing to stop them; but I have contented myself with such a show of force as will prove that I have no intention of being trifled with.

Speaking of the Montenegrins, whom he admitted to be brigands and bad neighbours, the Emperor said:—

It may be fair to tell you that if any attempts at exterminating these people should be made by Omer Pacha, and should a general rising of the Christians take place in consequence, the Sultan will in probability lose his throne. In this case he falls to rise no more. I wish to support his authority, but if he loses it, it is gone for ever. The Turkish empire is a thing to be tolerated—not to be reconstructed. In such a case, I protest to you I will not allow a pistol to be fired. The Emperor went on to say that, in the event of the dissolution of the Ottoman empire, he thought it might be less difficult to arrive at a satisfactory territorial arrangement than was commonly believed. The Principalities are, he said, in fact, an independent state under my protection: this might so continue. Servia might receive the same form of government. So, again, with Bulgaria. There seems to be no reason why this province should not form an independent state. As to Egypt, I quite understand the importance to England of that territory. I can then only say that if, in the event of a distribution of the Ottoman succession upon the fall of the empire, you should take possession of Egypt, I shall have no objections to offer. I would say the same thing of Candia; that island might suit you, and I do not know why it should not become an English possession. As I do not wish that the Emperor should imagine that an English public servant was caught by this sort of overture, I simply answered that I had always understood that the English views upon Egypt did not go beyond the point of securing a safe and ready communication between British India and the mother country. The conversation now drawing towards an end, the Emperor expressed his warm attachment to the Queen, our gracious Sovereign, and his respect for her Majesty's present advisers. The declarations contained in your lordship's despatch had been, he said, very satisfactory; he could only desire that they should be a little amplified. The terms in which your lordship had spoken of his conduct were, the Emperor said, very flattering to him. In dismissing me, his Imperial Majesty said, "Well, induce your Government to write again upon these subjects—to write more fully, and to do so without hesitation; I have confidence in the English Government. It is not an engagement, a convention, which I ask of them; it is a free interchange of ideas, and, in case of need, the word of a gentleman; that is enough between us."

The remaining documents consist of a memorandum drawn up by the Emperor, and embodying the views expressed in the above conversation—except that he is silent as to Egypt and Candia; a despatch from Lord Clarendon, "amplifying," as the Emperor desired, Lord John Russell's declarations; a report of an after-dinner conversation with the Emperor, in which he repeats that the relations of the two Powers, in reference to Turkey, stand now "on the word of a gentleman," and that he, being better informed than the English Government respecting Turkey, is sure that her downfall is imminent; and, lastly, a memorandum intended as a record of this conversation, and concluding with the Emperor's assurance, "that he is ready to labour, in concert with England, at the common work of prolonging the existence of the Turkish empire, setting aside all cause of alarm on the subject of its dissolution. He readily accepts the evidence offered by the British Cabinet of entire confidence in the uprightness of his sentiments, and the hope that, on this basis, his alliance with England cannot fail to become stronger."

The Registrar of Joint-stock Companies reports a list of 339 companies provisionally registered in 1853, and 124 completely registered. The list of companies provisionally registered comprises 35 assurance companies, 80 railway, 54 gas, 33 for other public works, 82 mining companies, 30 companies for conducting manufactures or working patents, 18 shipping companies, 3 land conveyance companies, 4 fishing companies, and 7 trading.

A public meeting of the friends of the Temperance Permanent Land and Building Society was held on Monday evening, in the British Schools, Farringdon-street, George Cruikshank, Esq., a trustee of the Society, presiding. In the course of a few remarks the Chairman endeavoured to impress upon the audience that the principle of such societies was excellent, and that the machinery of this society was admirably adapted to effect the object its promoters had in view. The first speaker, Mr. T. A. Smith, dwelt upon the benefit which Building and Land Societies in general conferred upon the community, engendering habits of prudence, economy, and a spirit of independence, and specially remarked upon the peculiar plan of this society. He was followed by Messrs. Sears, Hinks, Balfour, Hudson, Campbell, and Geary, who explained the mode of operation and the advantages this society offered, one of which, and one that gave great satisfaction to the meeting, was the obtaining of land upon lease, thus offering a member who did not care about a vote for the county, but was merely desirous of securing the largest return for his capital, a ready way of effecting his object. Several questions were asked by the meeting, and replied to so satisfactorily, that the questioners gave in their names as shareholders. A special vote of thanks was accorded the chairman, and the meeting separated, a number of shares having been taken.

Postscript.

LAST NIGHT'S PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Lords yesterday, on the third reading of the Marine Mutiny Bill, the Earl of Ellenborough complained of the inconvenience which arose from allowing the coastguard men who enlisted into the navy a higher rate of pay than was given to other able seamen. The Earl of Aberdeen remarked that the experiment was a new one, and time was required to determine upon its final arrangements. The bill was then read a third time and passed.

The Earl of Ellenborough then called attention to an alleged fraud committed by a contractor who had substituted filth and rubbish for good hay in the forage furnished for the artillery about to proceed to the East. He wished to know if this statement was true, and whether the criminal law would reach such a miscreant? The Duke of Newcastle was sorry to say that such a charge was true. It was not at present quite clear whether the law would reach the offender, but if it would, the House might rest assured that he would be treated with the utmost severity.

In the House of Commons, an address to the Crown was moved by Mr. Grenfell, praying the Queen to direct that certain revenues granted by the Sovereign in the years 1547 and 1559 should be duly appropriated to the uses of the Military Knights of Windsor, according to the tenor of the acts passed by Queen Elizabeth, James I., and her present Majesty. The discussion was postponed until Friday next.

Mr. Ferguson moved for leave to introduce a bill appropriating to the augmentation of certain ecclesiastical incumbencies in Carlisle the revenues of the first canonry of the cathedral in that city that might happen to fall vacant. Mr. CARDWELL intimated that he should offer no opposition to the first stage of the measure. Leave was then given to bring in the bill.

Mr. CAIRNS, in bringing forward a bill to amend and consolidate the law of bankruptcy in Ireland, explained that the intention of the measure was to assimilate the law of Ireland to that of England, in regard to the adjudication of cases in bankruptcy. Mr. KEOGH assented to the introduction of the bill; and after a few words, leave was given to bring it in.

THE INCOME TAX.

The enhanced Income-tax resolution having been reported from the Committee of Ways and Means, Sir H. WILLOUGHBY moved an amendment, having the effect of distributing the collection of the additional moiety, now added to the tax, over the whole year, instead of enacting its payment in the first six months. The incidence of the tax would, he urged, be thus alleviated to the payers, while there was no financial necessity for exacting the whole amount so promptly as the Chancellor of the Exchequer thought proper to propose.

A very lengthened discussion ensued, in which Mr. FRENCH, Mr. T. HANKEY, Mr. WILLIAMS, Mr. SPOONER, Mr. HUME, Mr. CAYLEY, Mr. LAING, Mr. MALINS, Sir F. BARING, Sir FITZROY KELLY, and Mr. GEACH took part. It turned chiefly upon the Bank Restriction Act of 1844, which was generally condemned, and the transactions of Government in the Stock Exchange.

Mr. DISRAELI denied that there was a necessity for increased taxation. The financial operations of the Chancellor of the Exchequer proved, he said, that minister's improvidence. He accused Mr. Gladstone of meeting with discourteous taunts his warnings against the reduction of the rate of interest on the unfunded debt, from the depression of the funds and other symptoms which no wise man, he said, would have disregarded. The raising of the rate of discount by the Bank twice in the same month, occasioned by the rapid efflux of the precious metals, ought alone, he thought, to have made the Chancellor of the Exchequer hesitate before he commenced an operation which was to end in a reduction of the interest of the whole funded debt. He pursued the alleged inaccuracies of the Finance Minister into other statements, and reproached him with undertaking so hazardous a project as that of dealing with the interest of the funded debt, in spite of the knowledge which he must have had of the ominous contents of the secret documents just disclosed. Irrespective of all these circumstances, he contended that the scheme, being radically defective, must have failed; and the attempt to work a double system—to pay off old incumbrances, and at the same time to bear the cost of a war out of our own immediate resources, was impracticable, and must end inevitably in a loan. From these financial topics Mr. Disraeli digressed to the Eastern question, and he contrasted the conflicting opinions expressed by different members of the Government with respect to it, proving, he argued, that they had no confidence in each other upon this any more than upon other subjects, or had not settled among themselves what was the real object of the war. Believing that the Chancellor of the Exchequer could not meet his engagements at the end of the year, he was not willing to aggravate his difficulties by voting for the amendment.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, vindicated himself from the charge made by Mr. Disraeli, that he had treated the right hon. gentleman with unseemly and discourteous taunts. He then addressed himself to the objections suggested by Mr. Disraeli, and, with reference to the reduction of interest upon Exchequer-bills, contended that he was not responsible for changes in the money-market, and that the objection would imply that no financial operations of this kind ought to be tried except at the very moment of time the most favourable for the operation. The measure was adopted by him in strict fulfilment of his duty to the public; and he showed that he had not, as alleged, thereby caused a violent reaction and incurred a higher rate of interest. In regard to the abortive operation upon the funded debt in April, 1853,

in spite, it was said, of so many premonitory symptoms, he had been censured at the time—not for making the operation, but for the smallness of its scale. Upon the subject of the balances in the Exchequer, he corrected certain misapprehensions as to his transactions with the Bank of England, and, as to the employment of deficiency bills, the moderate use of which, he believed, was compatible with the public credit and convenience for all parties. The amendment it was impossible he could accede to, as the object of the Government was to reconcile several purposes which might be in conflict, and to obtain sufficient funds for possible wants within a limited term. He trusted the House would, upon moral as well as economical grounds, adhere to the utmost of its power to the rigid rule of raising the supplies within the year.

After a few words from Colonel SITHOUR, the amendment was negatived, and the report was agreed to.—The House adjourned at 2 o'clock.

THE WAR.

Sir Charles Napier arrived at Copenhagen in the *Valorous* steam-frigate on Monday. The rest of the British fleet are in Wingo Bay. It is believed that it will from thence proceed partly to the Sound and partly to Kiel; the larger vessels will of course have to pass the Great Belt for want of the necessary depth of water off Copenhagen.

The *Austerlitz*, 100 guns, left Brest on Monday, for the Baltic. The *Heracles*, the *Duguesclin*, and the *Trident*, have sailed from Toulon for the same destination. The *Duport* will sail immediately, and other ships soon. M. Parseval Duchesne is the admiral in command. This announcement sets at rest all reports to the effect that no French fleet was to be sent to the Baltic.

It is said that the whole of the expeditionary army of France is to be embarked simultaneously, between the 19th and the 25th, at the ports of Toulon, Marseilles, and Algiers, and that these divisions will go directly to Gallipoli, a small Turkish town on the Peninsula which forms the European side of the Straits of the Dardanelles.

We learn from Vienna, that on Sunday Baron Meyendorff had an audience of the Emperor, which lasted two hours. It is reported that on the explanation of the intentions of Austria will depend the stay of the Russian Minister in that capital.

The export of gold from Russia is prohibited. The commander of the troops at Revel had proclaimed that probably the town would be bombarded by the English and French, and women had been required to leave it on a cruise in the Baltic.

The Swedish paper report that 30,000 Russians are employed in cutting a channel from Cronstadt to Soesaborg.

The Norwegian Diet, following the same example as that of Sweden, has voted the sums demanded by the government for the national armaments.

Count Benckendorf, the Russian military agent at Berlin, who had been directed by his own Government to leave that Court on a pretended journey to the Caucasus, is now to stay there; and we hear much of the effect produced by the eloquence of the Empress of Russia's appeals to the tender affection of her brother.

The treaty between France, England, and Turkey already concluded, does not contain any of the stipulations which have been erroneously connected with it for the protection of the Christians in the East.—*Times*.

BRITISH TRADE WITH RUSSIA.

The deputation of Russian merchants to Lord Clarendon yesterday consisted of Messrs. Wegelin, Brandt, Morgan, Mitchell, Tooke, Hill, Robinson, and Hodgson. In answer to their inquiries, his lordship stated that the Government are disposed to respect the persons and property of all Russian subjects residing as merchants in this country to the full extent promised by the Emperor of Russia towards British subjects, and that all necessary measures will be adopted to enable them to remain unmolested in the quiet prosecution of their business. With regard to licenses for special shipments during the war, it was stated that each case must be considered on its merits, but that the Government will do all in their power, after concert with their naval allies, to protect the bona fide property of British subjects in Russia. Finally, on the question as to the trade of neutral ports, his lordship said that the desire is to avoid throwing any special obstacles in its way, and that certificates of origin will not be demanded. Produce shipped from the ports of Prussia or any other friendly or neutral country will subsequently be considered *prima facie*, as friendly cargo.

FURTHER ARRESTS AT PRESTON.

PRESTON, TUESDAY, 10 P.M.

Nine delegates and committeemen have been apprehended, and warrants against others issued. Five men are under examination, all charged with conspiracy, their alleged offences being the sending back hands brought from Manchester. The further hearing of the case was adjourned till to-morrow, and the prisoners liberated on bail. There is great sensation in the town, but peace is preserved.

The Rev. Walter Kerr Hamilton, Residentiary Canon and Precentor of Salisbury Cathedral, has been designated to the bishopric vacant by the death of the late Rev. Dr. E. Denison. Mr. Hamilton was examining chaplain to the late bishop.

A Treasury minute just issued, gives directions to the Commissariat department for supplying the troops with malt liquors, preserved potatoes, chocolate, coffee, tea, sugar, rice, and Scotch barley for broth. These articles of diet are in addition to the ordinary rations of bread and meat.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 1854.

SUMMARY.

RUMOUR has anticipated official communication, by asserting that the Emperor of Russia will certainly reject the ultimatum of the Western Powers. Instead of six days, "six minutes" will, he is reported to have said, suffice to decide upon the demand to evacuate the Principalities. That he has determined to abide the result of an appeal to arms scarcely admits of a doubt. The rumours of resumed negotiations, somewhat officiously proposed by the German Powers, apparently without the authority of the Czar, have died away. To some proposition of the kind, the Emperor of the French is reported to have replied—"It is too late." The placing of European Russia in a state of siege, and the great preparations making on the coasts of the Baltic Sea and Gulf of Finland, leave little doubt of the intentions and expectations of the Autocrat. He is resolved to brave the worst. Whatever lingering confidence in his good intentions may have survived in some minds, seems to have been finally dissipated by the publication of the secret correspondence which has created "a remarkable impression," and "a universal sense" of his "faithlessness," as well as by a proclamation addressed to the Christian subjects of the Sultan, stating that he will go forth "to free our fellow believers from the yoke of the oppressor," and inviting them to take common cause with him. Should the Emperor decline to avail himself of the six days for deliberation granted by the Western Powers, his official answer may be expected in the course of the present week, to be followed immediately by a declaration of war, and the usual message from the Crown to the Legislature.

Meanwhile, the first division of the British fleet, under Sir Charles Napier, has reached the Sound, and will shortly be joined by Admiral Corry's division. Several ships of the French squadron to the Baltic have also set sail, and are to be placed under the command of Admiral Parseval-Deschenes. There is little doubt that the slighting and contemptuous references to France in the secret correspondence will quicken the preparations of the French Government, and intensify the animosity of the people. The sailing of the fleet to the Baltic has produced a wholesome influence in one direction. The King of Denmark has threatened his subjects with an *octroyé* constitution, and has retained in office a Ministry obnoxious to the Legislature and people, and suspected of sympathy with Russia. But the constitutional party has taken heart, and, probably, relying upon the moral support derived from the neighbourhood of a British fleet, demand the dismissal of the Oersted Ministry with great firmness and unanimity.

The Prussian people, too, are unusually outspoken in their views of the duty of their sovereign at the present crisis, although as yet with small result. The speech of M. Manteuffel, though abounding in high sounding phrases, clearly indicates the intention of the King of Prussia to take no part with the Western Powers. It is not surprising, therefore, that the Prussian semi-official journal should report that "the Czar has expressed his satisfaction with the neutrality which Prussia proposes to observe." Still, the King has demanded of his Chambers, authority to contract a loan of about five millions sterling—though it is difficult to understand why so large a sum should be required for the mere defence of a neutral position. It appears that, but for the vacillation of Frederick William, Germany would probably have presented an united front against the aggressions of the Czar, and have thus increased the chances of preserving peace. Austria would have signed the treaty with the Western Powers had Prussia consented to the arrangement, and, no doubt, the smaller States of Germany would also have concurred. Now, all definite engagements have been abandoned, though Austria continues to prepare for war on a large scale, and has collected an army of more than 150,000 men on her south-eastern frontier. The last conferences between the Imperial Cabinet and the Russian Minister at Vienna make it doubtful whether M. de Meyendorff will long remain at his post. Even the submissive Austrian Court will, probably, be stung into something like manly independence by the revelations of the secret correspondence. The Czar's remark to Sir Hamilton Seymour—"Oh! you must understand that, when I speak of Russia, I speak of Austria as well; what suits the one suits the other. Our interests as regards Turkey are perfectly identical"—is calculated to excite both indignation and resolution at Vienna.

The necessary evils of a state of war are multiplying around us. All the principal Governments of Europe are in the loan market. We have seen that Prussia requires a loan of five millions. An Austrian loan of five millions has, it is said, already

been taken up without recourse to foreign capitalists. France is obtaining a loan by public subscription, and Turkey is again in the market with better prospects of success than heretofore. While our money market remains tolerably firm under the menacing aspect of affairs, it is otherwise with Russian stocks, in which there is a species of panic. The Czar's Five per Cents. has fallen nearly 40 per cent in a few months! The French Government, too, has already seriously discussed the propriety of suspending all the Parisian journals except two, to be under official controul—a measure which excites unpleasant apprehensions of the future policy of our ally in respect to Sweden, Denmark, Italy, and Turkey. No little anxiety is felt as to the effects of war upon our commercial operations. Our own Government evinces a praiseworthy disposition to ameliorate the maxims and practices which have usually obtained, in respect to neutrals and the carrying trade, and Lord Clarendon's reply yesterday to a deputation of Russian merchants will be perused with satisfaction.

Birmingham, Yarmouth, and Maidstone, have this week pronounced on the Reform Bill. That in the most democratic town of England there should have been so easy an acceptance of a measure so little democratic—if not expressly anti-democratic—implies, we are willing to believe, rather a partial diversion than a permanent decline from the true political faith. Of course, the men of Birmingham dislike the minority clauses, the restrictions, and other encumbrances of the Bill—but they are ready to swallow all—"at a pinch"—as an expression of their confidence in Ministerial sincerity;—equally ready to put up with its indefinite postponement, if that be required by loyalty to the Treasury Bench. So, at last, speaks Mr. Scholefield, in Birmingham Town Hall. Perhaps, however, the hon. gentleman's anxiety to "repudiate the teachings of the Manchester school," is inspired less by dislike of their course on this question than by dislike to share their present unpopularity on another and more exciting topic.

Is Palmerston also among the Voluntaries? is a natural exclamation on reading the Home Secretary's reply to Mr. Adderley, last week, on the subject of juvenile reformatories. He stated, that Government had a measure under consideration, but could not mention any time for bringing it forward. He hoped to be able, by co-operation with institutions supported by voluntary contributions, to increase the number of youthful members of the proposed reformatories, and he was very desirous to take advantage of the voluntary efforts of any other institutions, if it were possible to do so. Coupled with the strong testimony of the leading members of the Birmingham Conference on juvenile delinquency, this declaration is valuable.—It does not appear that the Scottish Education Bill, on mature consideration, satisfies the more Liberal Dissenters north of the Tweed. Strong objections are taken to the clauses of the bill which enact religious instruction, and provide for the support of denominational schools. In the interesting report of a meeting in favour of the Congregational Board of Education, given in another column, it will be observed that Professor Fraser, of Airedale College, stated, as a fact, that "three-fourths of the Scotch people were now educated on the voluntary system, and far better educated than those who attended the Established Schools." What will the Lord Advocate say to this statement, so greatly at variance with his own?—At the same meeting, Mr. E. Baines took occasion to review the educational events of the past year, and asserted, that if the new Minute, which Ministers promised to submit to fair discussion, but silently adopted, "were allowed to continue in force, many hundred thousand pounds would soon be required from the country, yearly, to carry it out, and it would pauperize education among more than one half of the nation." In the midst of discouragements, it is satisfactory to find that self-supporting agencies like the Congregational Board of Education are in a high state of vigour and efficiency.

The vacant seat on the episcopal bench is likely to be filled by the Rev. W. K. Hamilton, residentiary canon and precentor of Salisbury Cathedral, and examining-chaplain to the late bishop,—whose steps in the road of preferment and in the "development" of doctrine, he seems to have followed pretty closely; having succeeded Dr. Denison in the vicarage from which he passed to his bishopric, and ascended, like him, from Evangelical to Tractarian Churchism. As, however, the promptest to assail his elevation as a new proof of Ministerial tendencies, admit the popularity of his ministrations and the excellence of his life, we may be content with an appointment that does not derange the ecclesiastical balance of power.

The reports of exploring parties sent out respectively by British and United States vessels, concur in representing the Darien Canal project as utterly impracticable;—twenty-six miles of forest, and six of mountain, presenting difficulties insuperable—not, indeed, to the engineer, but to the financier. We are more than compensated for

this destruction of an ever dubious hope, by the intelligence that thirty-two miles of the railway from Panama being now finished, the complete iron road between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans will be opened in July, and the journey across the Isthmus capable of easy accomplishment in two hours. Thus science, mechanical and social, bears us on steadily to the certain attainment of universal benefits, though at the frequent expense of individual schemes. And the Governments of earth, however slowly, follow in the wake of imagination and of speculative industry. We are henceforth to have a sixpenny postal communication with the colonies. On and after to-morrow, a half-ounce letter will pass, at that rate, from any part of the United Kingdom to Canada, the West Indies, and our insular possessions in the Mediterranean and Atlantic. Australia and the Cape are not yet included in this beneficent arrangement, because they are not under the absolute control of the Postmaster-General; but the concurrence of their respective Governments having been notified, the measure will be completed by further announcements. So, link by link, the world is girdled round!

NOTES FROM THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

WHEN Lord Palmerston informed Mr. Bright, a few evenings ago, that he, the noble lord, treated any opinions of the hon. member for Manchester with "the utmost indifference, and the most perfect contempt," he was deemed not only to have passed the bounds of Parliamentary etiquette, but to have violated the ordinary rules of gentlemanly decorum. What the noble lord professed to feel, however, he had, at least, the courage to declare. Mr. Bright had good reason, if he chose, to complain of this offensive language, for is he not the representative of one of the largest and most important constituencies in the kingdom? But Manchester, thickly populated as it is, cannot be compared, either in numbers, in social influence, or in any quality which should give title to the consideration of a statesman, with the whole body of unendowed religious communities throughout the realm, who may be reckoned, on unimpeachable authority, as amounting to a full third of her Majesty's subjects in England and Wales; and it is thought sufficient by the Government to treat them with "the utmost indifference and the most perfect contempt," without even taking the trouble to say so. The Cabinet chooses, when it suits them, simply to ignore the existence of Nonconformity—to deal with national institutions precisely as if Dissenters constituted no part of the nation—to regard their claims, their memorials, and their remonstrances, as the veriest dust in the balance when weighed against the wishes of a few lordly bishops—and, in short, to forget that there are such people, or that they possess the common attributes of humanity, whenever legislation might, besides taxing them in common with their fellow-subjects, open up to them likewise some common advantages.

Thoughts of this kind forced themselves upon us on Friday night, whilst Lord John Russell, labouring under evident indisposition which rendered his voice feeble and his manner languid, proceeded with the development of his plan of Reform for the University of Oxford. We went down to the House, well knowing that the measure to be proposed by the noble lord would not include a provision for the removal of religious tests, whereby Dissenters are excluded as well from matriculation, as from graduation. But we were not conscious of any irritability of temper. It was only when the leader of the House propounded one after another, wise and liberal principles for extending education in the University, for removing restrictions no longer in harmony with the spirit of the times, and for placing this great national institution upon a national basis—it was only when he enunciated these views, having previously resolved to resist their application to at least a third of the population of the kingdom, that our bosom began to heave with indignation. Here was a leading statesman of the day talking grandly of making national institutions more available for the benefit of the people at large, actually declining at the same moment to take into consideration the claims of upwards of 5,000,000 of Her Majesty's subjects, simply because they do not belong to the Established Church. Why it could not fail of striking a candid mind that the more perfect the plan of reform proposed, the greater would be the hardship inflicted on Dissenters by their exclusion. Mr. Blackett generously led the way in expressing regret that the measure contained no provision for the removal of religious tests, and Mr. Miall followed him in a short speech which, although it raised a titter at first, was afterwards listened to with that solemn silence which betokens a consciousness of unfair treatment. Mr. Heywood, too, commented on this feature of the scheme, and gave notice of his intention to remedy the wrong by moving a clause in committee on the bill. In other respects the measure was received in a much more moderate spirit of disapproval than had been anticipated. Mr. Wigram, Sir W.

Heathcote, Mr. Walpole, and Mr. Henley, defended the University, and Mr. Roundell Palmer, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, spoke eloquently and forcibly in support of the bill. If one may judge from first appearances, it seems not unlikely to be carried.

We know not how to account for it, but it does so happen that, whenever the present Government have had proof that any measure of theirs is distasteful to the majority of their own supporters, they are certain to press it on with unwonted perseverance and vigour. So it has been with their Ministers' Money (Ireland) Bill. The wretched compromise has excited disgust on the Liberal side of the House, and not a single argument, except the lame one used by Sir John Young, has been put forward in its favour from either side of the House. Nevertheless, three divisions have been unable to impede its progress. On Monday night, Ministers declined discussion; and, as soon as Mr. Miall's amendment had been moved and seconded, "strangers" were ordered to withdraw. To some extent the same line of observation is applicable to the course taken on the Colonial Clergy Disabilities Bill, on which we have commented in another column. The minority in this case is not large—for the true scope of the bill, notwithstanding the very able speech of Mr. Chambers against it, is not yet fully understood. The discussion on the second reading, however, originated by Mr. Hadfield, and kept up with animation for between two and three hours, will, no doubt, tend to draw the attention of the public to the measure, and, possibly, endanger its safety on the third reading.

It will scarcely be necessary for us to proceed to any formal account of the business of the week. The points likely to be specially interesting to our readers have been already noticed, and our columns of Parliamentary intelligence will give an ample summary of the topics which have come under discussion. We reserve the remainder of our space, therefore, for a sketch of the scene which took the House by surprise, and excited not a little merriment, on Monday evening last.

Well, on Monday, the orders of the day were to have precedence—and the first of them was for a Committee of Ways and Means. In committee, the discussion on the double Income Tax was to be taken, upon which Sir Henry Willoughby had given notice of moving an amendment, the effect of which would have been that the whole of the proposed increase, instead of being made payable in the first half-year, was to be collected in equal moieties, one in six months, and the other in twelve months, after the passing of the bill. On this motion much expectation had been excited. Severe whipping had been resorted to on both sides. It was whispered that the Government would sustain a defeat. The House, therefore, was crowded at an early hour—partly on the account above stated, and partly because Mr. Layard had given notice that, on the motion that the Speaker leave the chair, he would ask a question of the Government in relation to Russian affairs. Of course, the asking a question when a motion is before the House, gives the interrogator full liberty to speak, and opens the way for a discussion in which any members may join. And equally, of course, it was surmised that Mr. Layard intended to avail himself of the opportunity, and that a debate of some length would necessarily issue. Relying upon this, Sir Henry Willoughby, withdrew (as we understood) to the Library, to consult authorities, perhaps, or to get extracts from Hansard, or to complete the preparation of an important speech. There he sat, buried in his subject, whilst Mr. Layard was supposed to be occupying the House. But Mr. Layard merely rose at the appointed time to postpone till another evening the asking of the question of which he had given notice, on the ground of affording time for hon. members to digest the contents of the diplomatic papers but recently laid on the table. The question that the Speaker leave the chair was immediately carried, and the House resolved itself into Committee. The Chancellor of the Exchequer's resolution on the Income Tax was read, and Mr. Bouverie looked round for Sir Henry Willoughby. He was not in his place. Mr. French directed Mr. Bouverie to look on the ministerial side of the House where an hon. member was observed to have arisen—but he had seated himself again. The motion of the Chancellor was then read over slowly, and, no one moving, was put to the Committee. Strangers were ordered to withdraw. The division bells rang. A full House was obtained, and it seemed that the division was to be a simple "Aye" or "No" to Mr. Gladstone's proposition. But this was not what Mr. Disraeli wanted. When the question was again put, therefore, both sides agreed. The House resumed. The grand debate had fallen through. And the second reading of Ministers' Money Bill was being discussed within five minutes of the time at which Mr. Layard had risen. Mr. Miall was scarcely half through his speech when Sir H. Willoughby entered the House, quite unconscious of what had occurred in his absence. As he walked up the floor towards the table, the House laughingly and

vociferously cheered him, whereat he appeared much astonished. He afterwards attempted to apologise, but was out of order. Subsequently, however, he gave notice of moving his amendment on the bringing up of the Report.

"I AND THE ENGLISH GOVERNMENT."

In the batch of "secret and confidential" communications between the Russian and English Governments,—the publicity of which is a practical retort by the latter to a challenge from the former,—we have evidence about which there can be no moral dubiety to the designs of the Emperor upon the territories of his neighbour the Sultan. Of the wishes and even intentions of previous rulers of Russia,—and, indeed, of the nation itself, if that can be called a nation of which not a sixtieth part has any knowledge, or any opportunity for its appliance—history is not silent. We took the trouble to remind or acquaint our readers, some six months' since, of the traditional policy and sentiments of the Muscovite towards the Ottoman. In the treaties and other State documents published by Prince Czartoriski,* the most convincing proofs may be found, that from Peter the Great to Paul the Madman, the conquest of Constantinople was a cherished project at St. Petersburg. Still, it was a question whether Nicholas, like Alexander, had not the wisdom to prefer the internal improvement of his vast dominions, with the safe indulgence of his passion for conquering upon Poles and Circassians, to an attempt that would be sure to bring down upon him the puissance of Western Europe. Arguing only from events,—from the treaties of Adrianople and Unkiar Skelessi, the mission of Menschikoff and the occupation of the Principalities,—it was still to be questioned whether Nicholas would not be content, for his own lifetime, with having accelerated a consummation not to be snatched at without danger.

That question these documents set at rest. It is now plain that Nicholas hoped actually to witness the possession of Constantinople by Russian troops. His disclaimer of the inheritance of "dreams and plans" bequeathed by Catherine—his professions of anxiety that Turkey should not break up—his avowal of a resolve never to "tolerate" the permanent possession of Constantinople by his own people—will deceive no one, since they failed to deceive the courtly diplomatist to whom they were addressed, under all the circumstances that can aid delusion; confiding conversations in the presence of awe-struck saloons, or in the recesses of the Imperial cabinet; verbal contracts on the honour of a gentleman, and the gracious demeanour which accepts colloquial defeat without visible anger. Surely, since King John broke to Hubert,—"good Hubert,"—by strokes of lurid ambiguity, his murderous wish,—or the Duke of Gloucester preferred a book of devotion to his nephew's crown, there was never practised such finesse,—such thin veiling of intents it was at once desired and dreaded to reveal. None less than Shakespeare can fully draw out the character who in bye-play, shows sick and adying, the rich man, and friendless, whom it is proposed to propose to rob; or, if need be—if too long a dying—murder. The suggestion of a great political crime is in all his talk, and even in his most guarded writing. The owner of a great estate is in a mortal illness: what can become of his fruit trees and tenants? So run the papers drawn up by Nicholas's own hand—and he who runs may read their meaning:—"Let us be first to rob the orchard and secure the title deeds." In the honest warmth of private conversation,—gentleman with gentleman—he mentions right out, after some modest circumlocution, what he will consent to his confederate's taking;—apportioning to one, the green-house and pinery, as just suiting his taste—saying of another, "Oh! his interest is mine"—and implying that the two will be content with, jointly to hold, or to quarrel over, the house and lands. Leaving out of sight the people in possession—the Greeks, by whose rising, alone, could the Porte be overthrown—the suggested partition is a wrong towards all the other European Powers; especially towards France and Prussia, who, equally with the other three, have been parties to repeated interventions between Turkey and her subjects or neighbours. "Kind and temperate" Nicholas may be, in his personal habits—but of his sincerity or honesty, there will surely be no more allegations. Every one of the many snuff-boxes he distributed among English nobles and hotel-keepers in June, 1844, must be now on their way back to St. Petersburg.

It is not, however, as an exposure of Imperial duplicity, so much as an illustration of the working of diplomacy, that we value these documents. Doubtless, we shall hear them quoted, ere long, as an irrefragable instance of our generally over-

whelming obligations to the Foreign Office. But for the presence of an ambassador at St. Petersburg—it will be said—of a gentleman who can be entertained at royal parties and admitted to confidential interviews, we should never have known of these Russian designs upon Turkey. When this appeal is made by Lord Palmerston, perhaps Mr. Disraeli may retort, "You might as well have been in ignorance of what you acted in independence of;" but that is not an improvement of the occasion which should satisfy the people. To them, we would point out, that while diplomacy did not keep France informed of what was intended against her interest and dignity, secret diplomacy prevented our Ministers either from communicating the intrigue to our ally, or vindicating to their own country the suspicions which some deemed gratuitous. And more—we will venture to repeat, that, but for this diplomatic system, these designs would never have been formed; that is, Nicholas could never have hoped to secure the acquiescence of England in his nefarious projects. There can be no conspiracy where there is no secrecy. Abolish the existing channels of political communication between Governments—call home ambassadors, authorising consuls to report suspicious activity in the arsenals or in the movements of troops—and let prompt, unmutated communication of any special correspondence be made to a standing Parliamentary committee,—and what is lost to the honest interests of the state? Of what earthly advantage or honour is it, to a people whose strength is in their reputation for energy and wealth, that they keep a sort of sacred spy in every capital of the world—a gentleman with the accomplishments of a dancing-master and the cunning of a low attorney—commissioned to give good dinners for the promotion of the *entente cordiale*, to hold whispered conversations at evening parties, and report from memory imperial monologues on the fate of kingdoms? We very well know that nine quarrels out of ten are hatched in the heat of after-dinner talk, or the scandal of tea-table gossip. Why, then, should we maintain a costly system of international tittle-tattle, and be surprised that it neither promotes the intercourse of peoples, nor secures the amity of their rulers?

TALFOURD'S LEGACY TO HIS COUNTRY.

AN eminently good citizen does "service to the State" in other ways than that of direct achievement. It is generally, perhaps, the least of the obligations he lays upon his country, that he has obtained certain laws, or performed difficult actions. That he has shown the faculty of statesmanship or soldiership is, for the most part his greater merit—especially when this public ability has been connected with personal excellence. In other words, it is a lesser matter what he *does*, than what he *is*. Except in a few signal examples of the capacity of doing, the visible greatness of great men is chiefly valuable as a pedestal for the display of goodness that might otherwise have gone unregarded.

Thus it is that we estimate Thomas Noon Talfourd's claims on the gratitude of the public by whom he was so long and justly admired. He founded that claim in his success. In the very fact that he struggled up from the common plain of English middle-class life to the dazzling heights of literary and professional success, he made us all his debtors. For every such example of success—of an honourable ambition honourably prosecuted to its goal—is like a word of personal counsel and encouragement to the great host of strugglers with whom hope is often an only possession, and is always the vitalizing force of whatever may be possessed. But for the generous ambition of its youth, society would soon stagnate into base, if not ungentle animalism—so weak, alas! are the yet finer springs of action; and it is only the frequent proof that success without impurity is possible, that preserves ambition from becoming fierce or fraudulent. That in free states such proofs are frequent, is perhaps the sum of their advantage over states tyrannically ruled;—in the latter, success being usually possible only to the most perfect slave or the reckless disturber. Certainly, we in England can rejoice over an ever-lengthening roll of men whose distinctions were unbought by debasement. Every profession has its starry cluster of such men—literature and politics, scarcely to be counted among the professions, have perhaps the largest and brightest of all—and the constellations into which these clusters combine are, at this moment, shedding down the light of inspiration and strength, in unbroken beams, upon thousands of humble homes and comfortless lodgings, where intellectual toil goes on day and night unheeded by the world whose future it helps to mould.

Mr. Justice Talfourd was a bright, conspicuous member of this lustrous band. It was known, almost by all to whom his name was known, that he had "achieved greatness,"—had not been "born" to it, nor had it "thrust upon" him; but had laboriously, honestly earned it. That he had, at starting, none of the advantage which rank and

* Mr. Bogue, of Fleet-street, has just published under the title of "Russia Self-Condemed," a collection of secret documents, translated and edited by J. Regnell Morrell; who also prefixes an introduction as interesting as it is useful. The volume is not only essential to the politician, but should be on the historical shelf of every library.

wealth can give, was patent to all who knew that Talfourd was glad, as a law student, to write magazine articles, and as a barrister, to report for the *Times*. That he was elected to the House of Commons by his fellow-townsmen, proves how high he stood with them in reputation for probity, as well as that they were proud of the double fame which he had just begun to wear. Elevation to the judicial bench often proves nothing more than the success of the lawyer or the service of the partizan; but in the case of Talfourd—whose senatorial labours were nearly confined to vindicating the right of an author in his books, and of a mother to the custody of her child—the gift of the ermine was an expressed tribute to literary eminence, in conjunction with forensic qualifications. The satisfaction of the bar and the press with his discharge of judicial functions, consummated the evidence afforded by Talfourd's entire career, that the elegant and genial writer, the eloquent and classic orator, can be also an advocate well skilled in the quiddities of law, and as a judge both firm and merciful. It remained till his death unknown to as many as had not read it in his pages, or experienced it in personal intercourse, that he was, before and above all, a man who delighted in doing good and in attracting love.

It was, therefore, in good keeping with his life that he should die in the very utterance of the sentiment which he had thus embodied—especially in that utterance from the seat of administrative law. It has been well said, that we have all occasional moods in which, could we be fixed, we should go down to posterity vastly better looking than we deserve. But it cannot have been a lucky accident that perpetuated Talfourd in an attitude by which, above all others, he would have desired to be known hereafter. It must have been a solemn testimony to the habit of his life—the habitual posture of his spirit. At any rate, the hand of death has suddenly given the rigidity and permanence of marble to a form which men now gaze at with tearful admiration; with a feeling that it is half divine. Truly, the words, which were the last which affection or public duty could catch from Talfourd's lips, breathe a sublime morality. "We all of us keep too much aloof from those beneath us, and whom we thus encourage to look upon us with suspicion and dislike. Even to our servants we think, perhaps, we fulfil our duty when we perform our contract with them. How painful is the thought that there are men and women growing up around us, ministering to our comforts and necessities, continually inmates of our dwellings, with whose affections and virtues we are as much unacquainted as if they were inhabitants of some other sphere." It was in these faultless sentences—as free from acerbity as they are full of nervous strength—that he preached the Christian virtue of charity, for want of which, as he had just before said, his office had so often to exert its terrors. As if anxious not to impute to his countrymen a deeper fault than they could confess to, he went on to indicate the national characteristic of "reserve" rather than selfishness, as the obstacle to "that mingling of class with class, that reciprocation of kind words and gentle affections—gracious admonitions and kind enquiries—which, often more than any book education, tend to the culture of the affections of the heart, the refinement and elevation of the character, of those to whom they are addressed." And, as if to make a sententious summary of the sentiment and warning he wished to convey, he added—ere he passed for ever—"If I were to be asked what is the great want of English society—to mingle class with class—I would say, in one word, it is the want of sympathy."

We took pen in hand with the object of expanding this pregnant utterance—but we could not help dwelling on the moral of the life to which it put so solemn and beautiful a conclusion. The worth of sympathy—the force it exerts upon the intellect and character, the love it wins, the help it is even to worldly success—stands now revealed as the secret of a career which seems never to have excited envy or enmity. The want of sympathy between class and class in this England, of which class distinctions are the curse, is a text whose illustrations are so unhappily abundant that we may at any time discourse therefrom.

The author of "The Coming Struggle" has published another book in which he says, that the summary of events in Russia's mission and destiny, as deduced from prophecy, is the following:—"1st. He wrests a portion of the Assyro-Macedonian territory from Turkey, and becomes 'king of the north.' 2nd. He overthrows the Turkish power, takes possession of Constantinople, and becomes the 'dragon.' 3rd. He conquers the continental nations, and becomes 'Gog of Magog.'" Pope and Popish system are to disappear. Napoleon the Third is to die the death of all usurpers. Austria is to fall like a rotten branch. Nicholas is to reign over all the nations of Europe as "Gog and Magog," but "he attempts the conquest of Syria and India, and is destroyed, with all his hosts, in the valley of Jehoshaphat near Jerusalem."

THE WAR IN THE BALTIC.

The peculiarities of the Baltic Sea and the Gulfs of Finland and Bothnia, with the countries washed by them, are naturally exciting attention and eliciting information, during the state of anxious suspense preceding the operations of the British fleet. Every one who feels desirous of making intelligent acquaintance with the scene of the coming war, will no doubt have studied, in the useful maps of Mr. Wyld, or other caterers for public wants, the geographical peculiarities of Northern Europe and the Baltic coast. A few explanations, gleaned from the *Athenæum* and other sources, will help to throw further light upon this deeply interesting subject.

The British fleet is now probably at anchorage in the neighbourhood of Wingo; a rock near the entrance to Gotheborg and at Rifo Fiord off the coast of Sweden.

Wingo Sound, between Buskar and Botto, has good holding-ground, in 15 or 16 fathoms water; as a stopping place, this roadstead is very commodious, partly for vessels outward bound, with N.W. or W. winds, and partly for those going to Gotheborg and meeting contrary winds in the narrows between the rocks. A heavy sea, however, sets in there with a S.W. gale. But in the fiord of Rifo, four miles to the eastward of Buskar, in the inlet to Gotheborg, ships may ride sheltered in all winds, and this roadstead is spacious enough for the largest fleet, in eight fathoms of water, and on good holding-ground.

The city of Gotheborg has extensive water communication with the interior of Sweden, and has a large trade. Its population is near 30,000. The fleet in the above position would effectually command the Baltic, so that no ships could pass from that inland sea without its observation. It is not unlikely that the next anchorage ground for the fleet will be Kiel Bay, on the eastern coast of Holstein, a little to the south of Schleswig. It is a capacious and most beautiful bay, and possesses the paramount advantage of communication by railway with Hamburg, besides any amount of victualling supplies, which are both good and cheap. Coals are also plentiful, and may be had at a reasonable contract price. The peculiarities of the Baltic Sea have been thus described:—

Notwithstanding its extent, the Baltic has all the characteristics of a great lake. No sea has, in proportion to its size, so great an influx of fresh water; hence it contains but little salt. In proportion to the North Sea this is found to be as 194 to 373. The depth of the Baltic on the west is not more than fifteen fathoms, and in general it is only from eight to ten fathoms deep; on the south it is nowhere more than fifty fathoms; but towards the north it deepens to 100 fathoms. The Baltic receives the waters of the Niemen, Vistula, and the Oder, besides numerous lakes and smaller streams. The great amount of sand and mud carried down by the rivers has considerably raised the bottom of this sea, and closed the mouths of many of its navigable streams, so that ships which formerly entered these rivers must now be anchored at a considerable distance from their mouths. This, together with the numerous islands and sandbanks, and the gradual upward movement of the bed of the sea, at the rate of several feet in a century, renders navigation on the Danish shores of the Baltic troublesome and dangerous. It has no tides, or rather the effect of the tide is so little felt as not to be observable; but is subject to changes of level, depending on the winds, retarding and accelerating the passage of the water through the sound and the belts. During winter this sea is usually frozen to a greater or less distance along the coasts; and in severe winters, not only the sound and the belts, but a great part of its surface is covered with ice.

A glance at the map will exhibit the importance of the islands of Aland and Gotland, held by Sweden. It is thought that Russia may attempt to gain possession of the latter station—one of the most strategical points in the Baltic,—and overawing Stockholm; but the Swedish Government have put it into an efficient state of defence, and despatched five regiments of infantry and one of cavalry to man its fortifications. The principal Swedish naval station is Carlsrona; but it is in the Gulf of Finland—the probable destination of Sir Charles Napier's powerful fleet—that the public interest chiefly centres. Of the characteristics and defences of this coast our information is meagre. Few parts of Europe are so little known. Russia studiously discourages the dissemination of such knowledge of her dominions as may be turned against her in time of war, especially in relation to seas and coasts from which there is no egress to the ocean but through the Sound. The three great ports of the Gulf of Finland are Revel, Helsingfors, and Cronstadt. The first of these naval stations lies to the South of the Gulf, in the province of Revel, and contains, or recently contained (for the harbour is said to be now nearly clear of ice), a division of the Russian fleet. Helsingfors is situated to the west of Viborg, and is the capital of the Grand Duchy of Finland; it is about 180 miles W.N.W. of St. Petersburg. It has been greatly improved by the Russians, since it came into their possession. At the present moment the population numbers 16,000, exclusive of the garrison. It contains a university and a large library.

The harbour is capacious, and ranks as one of the best in the Baltic, and an important trade is carried on in

timber, corn, and fish. Helsingfors is the residence of the Governor-General, and the seat of important courts and public offices: it contains the Senate House, several churches, and has manufactures of linen, sail-cloth, and tobacco. There are several agreeable walks in the neighbourhood, amongst which the forests of Standsvik, the solitary coast near Mailand, and the verdant gardens of Traeskenda are chiefly noticeable.

The approach to Helsingfors by water is exceedingly striking. The harbour is very extensive, and well protected by the works and fortress of Sveaborg, which are built upon seven islands. The fortifications are said to mount 800 cannon, with barracks and casemates for a garrison of 12,000 men. The strength of this fortress is such that it has been termed the Gibraltar of the North. The original fortress was erected by Count Ehrensward, Field Marshal of Sweden, by command of Gustavus the First; it was destroyed in the Russian war, and a Swedish army, under Count Layenhaupt, surrendered by capitulation to the Russians. The last stone of the new citadel was laid in 1758, and after the conquest of Viborg and Ingermania by Peter the Great, this fortress was the last rampart of Sweden against the Russians, and the rallying point of the troops and fleet. In March, 1808, it was besieged by the Russians, and two months after, Admiral Cronstadt, who defended the place with 1,500 men and two frigates, capitulated, though well furnished with every munition of war. The secret of this capitulation, without example in history, was never known.

Of even greater interest in connexion with future naval operations, is Cronstadt, the great naval arsenal of Russia, and the key to St. Petersburg:—

Cronstadt is about thirty-one miles distant from St. Petersburg; it is built at the S.E. extremity of Cotlin-Ostrof, an island in that part of the Gulf of Finland called the bay of Cronstadt, about sixteen miles from the mouth of the Neva. This island, a bed of chalk, is seven miles in length and about one mile in breadth. At the entrance of the harbour, on an island opposite the citadel, lies the castle and fortress of Cronschloft, built by Peter the Great. This fortress and the mole bristle with guns, and the harbour itself is approachable only by one channel, which is fortified by a double line of guns; these works constituting Cronstadt, "the Malta of the Baltic." The passage between this place and Cronstadt is 2,000 paces in width, and has ample depth for the largest vessels. Besides its importance as the great naval station of the Russian fleet, Cronstadt is the harbour of St. Petersburg. All vessels proceeding to that port are searched here, and their cargoes settled, and such as are too large for the shallow waters of the Upper Neva, unload their cargoes at Cronstadt, and transport them in smaller craft. Cronstadt, which is built in the form of an irregular triangle, is strongly fortified on all sides. It has three harbours lying to the south of the town. The outer, or military harbour, which is entirely surrounded by a massive and strongly fortified mole, is a rectangle, stretching out into the sea, and is capable of containing, besides smaller vessels, above thirty-five ships of the line. It is now, however, so shallow at low water, that many of the ships are obliged to anchor in the middle of the harbour, which is properly intended for the fitting-out and repairing of vessels. It contains the ships, the powder-magazine, a manufactory of pitch, tar, &c. The third, west, or innermost harbour, which has space for 600 merchant vessels, and runs parallel with the middle harbour, admits only merchantmen, for which there is beside an excellent roadstead, immediately outside of the port, which is defended also by the citadel, constructed on a rock in the middle of the sea of Cronstadt. All these harbours are well secured; but in consequence of the freshness of the sea water, no vessel can be preserved in them above twenty years. They are, besides, detained a greater part of the year by the ice in the bay of Cronstadt, which usually prevents vessels from entering after the end of November, or leaving before the end of April, or sometimes even later. The town is very regularly built, and contains very fine, straight, well-paved streets, and several public squares. The permanent population of Cronstadt, exclusive of the garrison, the pupils of the naval school, workmen, and sailors, is not considerable; during the summer it amounts to nearly 40,000 individuals, of various nations; of these, next to the Russians, the English are most numerous. The inhabitants derive their chief support from the fleet, trade, and shipping.

Finland has chiefly fallen into the possession of the northern autocrat during the present century. There is a distinct establishment at St. Petersburg for the government of this vast province, or Grand-Duchy. The Governor-General, who resides at Helsingfors, has the superintendence of the military affairs, though Finland has a constitution of its own, by which the inhabitants are classed in four social orders, as in Sweden. The Diets are never convoked, except on the occasion of additional taxes being contemplated by the Government, as, in accordance with the constitution, no new laws can be enacted, no new taxes imposed, without their sanction. Finland, with the two Lapmarks of Kami, Tornea, and the district of Viborg, form a Russian Government. Its present name was given it by the Swedes, but the natives call it Suomenna—the region of lakes and swamps. The population is about 1,500,000.

The sea-coast of Finland presents throughout its entire extent the same succession of fords and rocky headlands, which encircle the whole seaward frontier of Sweden and Norway; but the dimensions of the fords of Finland are far more limited than those to the west of the Gulf of Bothnia, seldom exceeding a few miles in extent, although their mouths contain an equal number of islands; some of which, as the Isles of Sveaborg, have been converted into fortresses of great strength. The coasts of the Bosnian and Finland Gulfs are thickly strewn with rocks of granite and limestone, presenting in places a labyrinthine archipelago of little islands, rendering the navigation extremely dangerous. The interior of Finland is intersected and broken up by a vast number of inland lakes, shooting out their winding arms and branches in all directions; which, while they offer the greatest facilities for internal navigation, render land travelling circuitous and difficult. Many of the high roads pass over islands

on these lakes, the natural strength of whose situation has been taken advantage of to cover them with batteries; some of them, as at Viborg and Nyslot, are considered impregnable, save to fraud or famine. These lakes, both by their number and extent, furnish one of the most characteristic features of the country. The climate varies much, according to the locality. In Lapmark, in the north, it is polar, somewhat modified. Further south, at Uleaborg, winter begins in October and continues to May, to which month the spring is limited. Summer commences in June and lasts three months, which are generally so hot and dry that the crops, particularly where the soil is of a sandy texture, often suffer from drought. The autumn, like the spring, is confined to one month, and may be said to commence and terminate in September. Even in summer the nights are cold, particularly about the middle of August. During summer, however, the progress of vegetation is remarkably rapid; and there have been instances of grain being sown and reaped in six weeks.

Agriculture, rearing of cattle, and fishing, are the principal occupations of the inhabitants. The coasts present good harbours, which cannot be extensively used on account of the long winter,—during which, however, transport by sledges affords an easy and rapid communication. During the winter there is a direct road across the Gulf of Bothnia to Sweden, and in March, 1809, Barclay de Tolly crossed over with a division of the Russian army from Vasa to Umea, in Sweden.

One of the principal cities of Finland is Viborg, the ancient capital of Caralia. It came into possession of Russia in 1745. It has a considerable export trade, and contains about 3,500 inhabitants. The port of Viborg is of great extent, and is inclosed by two large islands, which form, as it were, two natural breakwaters. As a fortress it ranks high, both for position and strength: the sea washes nearly the whole length of the outer walls, while battery upon battery commands every approach. Between the lines and the city there flows a broad arm of the sea, in the midst of which stands a solitary rock, crowned with a fine old tower of other days, rearing its still proud head, high and imposing, above all around it. On a peninsula in the Bay of Finland is Frederiksham, a town of about 1,500 inhabitants; once a fortress of great strength, but now neglected. A massive tower occupies the centre of the town, in which, on the 5th of September, 1809, the treaty of peace was signed, by which Sweden surrendered Finland to Russia. A fire consumed this tower and several of the streets some few years since.

Foreign and Colonial News.

RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

REJECTION OF THE ULTIMATUM.

The *Constitutionnel* publishes a despatch, dated Vienna, March 18, stating that despatches from St. Petersburg arrived on Friday, which announced the rejection by the Czar of the last ultimatum. The Czar is known to have said that the proposal of the Western Powers did not require five minutes' consideration. The French courier arrived at St. Petersburg with the ultimatum sooner than the Queen's messenger.

Towards the end of last week, it was reported, both in Paris and London, that the Prussian envoys had made fresh propositions for the settlement of the Eastern question. The same report came from Vienna in the following shape:—

The new propositions of Russia are based on the maintenance of existing treaties between Russia and the Porte. If this be admitted, Russia will quit the Principalities, provided that the combined fleets quit the Black Sea and the Bosphorus.

Negotiations will then be resumed, in which the propositions of Prince Menschikoff will form the base of a new convention with the Porte, in which the Four Powers are to participate.

It is asserted that Austria and Prussia were willing to agree to these terms, and that Baron Bourqueney on the part of France thought them worthy of consideration, but that Lord Westmoreland insisted on the revision of the existing treaties.

It is also said that if the Western Powers reject these terms Austria will consider herself free from her engagements to them.

It is believed that Prussia, probably on her own responsibility, proposed some plan of mediation to the Emperor of the French, through Prince Hohenzollern. But it is certain that neither the project, of whatever kind it may be, nor the explanations were found satisfactory; and while Prince Hohenzollern was proceeding to urge them, the Emperor took hold of his hand, shook it in a very friendly manner, and said, "Prince, am most happy to see you as a friend, but, as respects the object of your mission, I have only to say, it is too late."

THE CONVENTION BETWEEN TURKEY AND HER ALLIES.

A telegraphic despatch from Constantinople, dated 9th March, states that on the 8th a four hours' conference was held between the British and French Ambassadors and Redschid Pasha, respecting the convention under negotiation between Turkey and the Western Powers. "The chief points are:—1. The Porte engages never to negotiate with Russia without the intervention of the Western Powers. 2. Amelioration of the condition of the Christians. A separate treaty is annexed, for the four following points:—1. Abolition of the poll-tax. 2. Right of Christians to be admitted as witnesses in judicial proceedings. 3. Right to hold landed property, without distinction of nationality or religion. 4. The civil rights of the Christians admitted in the army and the civil service. The destination of the English and French forces is to be left to the decision of the Sultan."

According to a telegraphic despatch from Bucharest,

of March 4, the Emperor Nicholas has published a manifesto, making a direct appeal to insurrection in aid of his cause. He says:—"The Sultan having persisted in his obstinate course, France and England are marching against Russia. We will go forth in the name of the Holy Trinity, to free our fellow-believers from the yoke of the oppressors. Let the oppressed make common cause with us."

Omer Pacha has been appointed to the rank of Regent, the highest office next to the Sultan. He is thus much more independent of the War-office at Constantinople, and will be able to make the subordinate appointments in the army without interference. It is believed that the Commander-in-Chief intends to assume the offensive as soon as possible, and cross the Danube.

On the 3rd, her Majesty's ship *Furious* and French steam-frigate *Vauban* returned from the Black Sea. They landed Chekib Effendi and his suite, and Sir Stephen Lakeman, at Varna, and then proceeded to Odessa, with which place the *Furious* communicated. The ice was breaking up. The two vessels had been separated by a gale of wind on their passage. On their return they each passed near Sebastopol; saw a boom across the entrance to the harbour, and counted six ships of the line extended so as to guard the principal harbour, and four more in the creek, besides several frigates and brigs. The *Vauban* suffered a good deal from the bad weather, losing one of her quarter boats and much of her head berthing.

RUSSIA IN A STATE OF SEIGE.

Through the *Paris Moniteur* of Thursday, we learn the substance of four ukases, dated the 5th instant, declaring various parts of the Russian dominions—apparently all European Russia—in a state of seige: the Emperor names the Governors for the various districts, and places the government of St. Petersburg under the authority of the Grand Duke, heir to the throne, and Commander-in-chief of the Guards and Grenadiers. General Von Berg will command the troops destined to protect the Russian coast of the Baltic, and the government of Esthonia; the kingdom of Poland and the governments of Courland, Kowno, Wilna, Grodno, Volhynia, and Podolia, together with the province of Bessarabia, and part of the government of Kherson, on the right bank of the Bug, are put under the command of Field-Marshal the Prince of Warsaw, Count Paskiewitch of Erivan, commander-in-chief of the active army. Under him stand Prince Gortschakoff, Count Rudiger, and Baron Osten-Sacken.

The exportation of grain from the Danubian Provinces is now prohibited.

A letter from St. Petersburg, dated March 12th, describes the religious excitement of the population:—"All the bishops and archbishops are to be found preaching with all power and earnestness on the many opportunities which thanksgivings for victories, fête days, or consecration of flags, now afford them. The rarity of this exhibition on the one hand, and the sensitiveness of the people on the other, who, as they have so few subjects of intellectual excitement, and are so seldom excited at all, lively apprehend, in their unadulterated force, the words of the preacher, confer the highest possible importance on the subject, and Europe will find this out by-and-by. To one of us, more particularly if he has not lived here as long as I have, it is most affecting to see how touchingly, how solemnly, with almost devotion, the people sing their national hymn, '*Bosche Zarja chrani*.'—'God preserve the Emperor,' on all occasions, at the theatre or at public festivities, whenever allusion is made to the present war. Even the journals here find the present extent of warlike excitement and religious fervour sufficiently remarkable for them to make special mention of. The *Sauvemaia Ptschela*, or *Northern Bee*, for instance, pointed out on a late occasion, at Odessa, how beautiful it was to contemplate a whole congregation rising from their seats at once, 'touched, awestruck, entranced.'"

THE BALTIC POWERS.

For some time a project of an octroyé constitution, projected by the present Danish Cabinet, has been hanging over the heads of the Danes. Questions respecting the intentions of the Ministry having only obtained evasive answers, addresses were moved in both Houses, on the 11th instant, praying the King to remove all doubts as to whether or not it is intended to proceed with the constitution without the consent of the Parliament. After a debate, the address was, on the 14th, adopted in the Landsting by 38 to 6, and in the Folkething by 77 to 3. This amounts to a defeat of the Ministry. The King answered the address by saying, that he will consider what is best for the public service, and will take measures accordingly. Denmark is still making military and naval preparations; and a fleet of twelve ships, carrying 250 guns and 2,182 men, is nearly ready for sea.

No agreement with Russia for the recognition of Swedish neutrality, in the form proclaimed by the Cabinet of Stockholm, had been arrived at on the 10th instant. The Swedes maintained their former resolute attitude.

THE GERMAN POWERS.

The Minister President, at the sitting of March 18, of the Second Russian Chamber, made the following declaration, viz:—"Prussia adheres to the terms of the Vienna Note, and no measures will be taken without due reference to the interests of the German Confederates. Prussia has already come to an understanding with those States and Austria. The King is strongly impressed with the necessity of endeavouring to preserve Germany from the calamities of war, and to stand by those States whose territories are more exposed to attack than those of Prussia. Prussia will preserve an independent attitude, and will resist every attempt that may be made to influence her conduct, come from what quarter it may. The strength and the sword of Germany will only be employed to defend German interests." The Minister concluded by proposing a

loan of 30,000,000 thalers, which is to be extinguished by an augmentation of taxes.

Count Pourtales, a moderate Conservative of Anti-Russian politics, and long associated with M. Mantouffell in the Foreign Office, has withdrawn from the Government, on account of the hesitation on the Eastern question.

The *Baltic Gazette* announces that an address, which was exhibited for signature on the 15th instant, at the Stettin Exchange, praying the Prussian government to join the Western Powers, was in a few hours covered with names of men belonging to every political party.

The *Journal de Frankfort* contains an interesting article on the probable future policy of Austria. The Imperial Government, we read, refused, at the demand of Russia, to pledge itself to a strict neutrality, and the same care for the interests of its own subjects now prevents its forming an intimate alliance with the Western Powers. "Austria will only take a part in the contest when she is forced to do so in defence of her own interests and of the balance of power in Europe."

A private telegraphic despatch announces that the Austrian Government has resolved, now that the entire amount of the lottery loan has been taken, to send another 30,000 men to the Turkish frontier. Letters from Pesth state, that the transport of troops and materiel of war to the south, is going forward on the most extensive scale.

THE INSURRECTION ON THE FRONTIER OF GREECE.

A correspondence from Constantinople of the 5th, in the *Patrie*, says the Greek insurrection was considered as almost terminated by the battle of Arta. The principal insurrectionary bands had been dispersed or thrown back upon the frontier. Great satisfaction was felt at Constantinople at this success, which had been achieved by Turkish troops alone without assistance. The Lord High Commissioner of the Ionian Islands had sent an English detachment to the assistance of the garrison of Arta, but the Arnauts had got the better of the rebels before they arrived. The Porte had addressed a letter of thanks to the Lord High Commissioner, whose conduct had been entirely approved of by Lord de Redcliffe.

Redschid Pasha has addressed a strong note to M. Metaxa, the Greek Minister, declaring that the Turkish Government will hold King Otho responsible unless he takes measures to prevent the Greeks from assisting the rebels.

The *Trieste Observer* announces that the representatives of France, England, Austria, and Prussia have handed a collective note to the Greek government against the emigration of Greeks into Turkey, with the view of exciting commotion, and the Turkish ambassador has energetically protested against it.

The *Observateur* of Athens publishes two letters from General Rhangos and Colonel Stratos to the King of Greece and the Minister of War resigning their situations, in order to be at liberty to join the insurgent force in Albania. The *Patrie* says King Otho has refused to accept their resignations. These officers will therefore be liable to be tried for high treason should they persist in joining the insurrection, which was their avowed object in resigning.

The first acts of Fuad Effendi, the Turkish commissioner, on reaching Janina, were to grant a general amnesty, and remit part of the taxes; and, secondly, to send a messenger to Athens, to demand an explanation of the conduct of the Greek Government.

The Paris correspondent of the *Morning Post* gives an instance of the direct intervention of British authority:—"At Preveza, 2,000 Arnauts declared themselves for the insurgents; but Captain Peel, (of the *Diamond*, 28-gun frigate, I believe,) immediately landed 100 blue-jackets and marines, and restored order. Grivas, the insurgent chief, has appeared before Janina, and summoned the town to surrender at the expiration of six days."

FRANCE.

It is believed in Paris that the preparations for the coming struggle, both in the army and navy, are very backward and unsatisfactory. The defects in the former, may to some extent be attributed to the illness of Marshal St. Arnaud. The Emperor, to whom Marshal Vaillant has presented a report on the subject, is understood to be extremely dissatisfied with this state of things, and has expressed his displeasure in strong terms. The *Moniteur* announces that General Canrobert, and the first division of the troops destined to form the army of the East, left Marseilles, on Sunday, at 6 p.m. In consequence of the equivocal attitude of Prussia, the idea of an army on the Alps is still discussed. Another report is, that the marching orders of General Forey's reserve division had been countermanded, on account of the unsatisfactory attitude of Prussia, and that he will very shortly be appointed to the command of an army of observation on the Rhine frontier, consisting of 40,000 men.

The subscriptions to the loan, from the 14th to the 19th, amounted to the sum of 236,000,000f.

It has been stated that the question of the suppression of the existing journals in Paris and the departments, with some exceptions, was actually discussed in a recent Council of Ministers. Besides the *Moniteur*, two journals only would be allowed for Paris, and one for each of the departments. This proposition was thrown out by a small minority, and one version is, that the Emperor, who presided at the Council, gave no opinion, while another is that he opposed it. Seeing that the Paris journals, with the exception of the *Assemblée Nationale*, previous to its suspension, and perhaps the *Legitimist Union*, supported the policy of the Government in the Russian question, and that the Government has it in its power, by law, to suspend or to suppress a journal, there seemed no necessity for any new measure. It is, however, believed that the question is only postponed,

and that some compensation would be offered to the journalists—in fact, some newspaper proprietors have already been spoken to on the subject.

The French fleet being occupied in the Mediterranean in transporting troops to the East, will, for the present, be only represented in the Baltic by the *Austerlitz*. At a later period the squadron of Admiral Paraveal Deschenes will enter that sea to join the fleet of Admiral Napier.

ITALY.

The United States corvette, *St. Louis*, recently paid a visit to Naples, to settle "the Carbone case;" but the Neapolitan Government had anticipated the difficulty by setting Mr. Carbone at perfect liberty to wander about at will. It will be recollected that this American citizen landed in Sicily for trade purposes; and that he was placed under strict surveillance by the Government, in the teeth of proper papers, and the assurances of the United States Charge d'Affaires.

The King of Piedmont signed, on the 11th, a decree, authorising the presentation to the Chambers of a bill for suppressing the rich monastic orders. The revenues will be divided among the poorer parishes which hitherto received a supplementary allowance from the State. In this manner the budget will be relieved from a considerable annual sum charged for the expenses of public worship. The members of the suppressed orders will receive a pension. The suppression will only affect those religious orders of whose duties that of teaching does not form a part. The monasteries to which schools and colleges are attached will not be interfered with.

All the available funds belonging to the Government of Rome (excepting, of course the ecclesiastical) have been disposed of to the extent of 110,000,000 dols. No less than 18,000,000 have been raised by loan and in various ways, under the declared purpose of withdrawing 7,000,000 of paper currency, and yet only 5,000,000 have been withdrawn, and there is no more money wherewith to take up the remaining 2,000,000 except through the medium of a loan or the sale of a monopoly. "Nothing," says a correspondent of one of the daily papers in the Holy City, "can be worse than the state of this department, and bankruptcy must be the end of mismanagement, corruption, speculation, fraud, and falsehood. The Roman army, for which great pecuniary sacrifices have been made, amounts now to about 12,500 men; that is to say, 7,600 Roman infantry, 2,000 gendarmes, 1,000 cavalry, and 2,500 Swiss. Of these, one-quarter of the gendarmes may be depended on; the Swiss might act for the Government; but the rest, in case of a revolution, would take any side but that of the Papal Government."

The struggle between the civil and military authorities in Lombardy, has just been exemplified in a striking manner. A few days ago, Count Giulay, military commander at Milan, sent to request Dr. Bürger, the civil governor of Lombardy, to furnish him with some 300,000 francs from the sequestration fund at his disposal. On Dr. Bürger's declining to comply with the request, General Giulay sent some officers and an armed force to seize the sum required!

The following extract is taken from a letter dated Rome, March 9th, and gives some interesting particulars of the carnival:—"The carnival is over, the last moccio went out on Tuesday night, and in a moment the Corso became black as Erebus, after having glittered for two hours in a way that quite put the poor stars to shame. This has been a splendid season; the number of English and Americans is quite fabulous, and they have been well amused in the eternal city by about forty grand balls and innumerable smaller reunions during the carnival. Princess Doria received all the elite at a magnificent fete, where the splendour of the palace and the amount of riches displayed might have astonished many a crowned head. Prince Torlonia had a vast crush ball, and the French Ambassador, the Countess de Rayneval, gave a grand rout at the Colonna Palace. Nor have good dinners been wanting; the Duke of Northumberland gave splendid banquets once a week. Last week, too, there was a large entertainment given by Mr. Hooker, partner in the bank of Maquay and Pakenham, to the late President of the United States, Mr. Martin Van Buren, at which many of the most distinguished residents and strangers in Rome 'assisted.' The Duke of Wellington, who has been enjoying the carnival here, was present, as well as Cardinal Alfieri, Prince Massimo, Sir Alexander Mallet, the Duke of Sermoneta, and others. But now all the gaieties, except the hunt, are perforce over, and the correct Romans given up to fasting and saying their prayers."

SPAIN.

M. Isturitz was, at the latest dates, hourly expected at Madrid, from London. The cause of his return is accounted for in two ways. One is, that he was ordered not to remain any longer in a country where the Government is powerless to restrain the attacks of the press upon Queen Isabella and her Government; the other, that the Ambassador wanted a holiday. It would seem certain, however, that M. Isturitz has been recalled at the direct, some say, "obstinate insistence," of the Queen herself.

The Saragossa insurrection has resulted in a distribution of rewards and punishments. The Captain-General of Arragon, Rivero, who suppressed the revolt, received the grand cross of the order of Ferdinand; Madame Rivero has received the cross of the order of Maria Louisa; the Marquis de Santiago is promoted to the rank of Major-General; and the civil functionaries are to be decorated. Lieutenant-Colonel de la Torre, of the revolted regiment, has been shot; and three journalists, Bermudez de Castro, Rances, and Bustamante, have been shipped off for the Canaries.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

Count Thibaudau, once a member of the National Convention, subsequently a Councillor of State under the first Napoleon, and senator under the present

Emperor, died last week at Paris, in his eighty-ninth year.

M. de Villèle, former Minister of Finance under the Restoration, died at Toulouse on the 13th instant.

Princess Metternich died, in the Austrian states, on the 2nd instant. She had long suffered from the disease which eventually proved fatal.

The carnival at Naples this year has been a failure; the people have no heart for such things.

Mr. Thackeray is in Naples, whence he sends his monthly instalments of *The Newcomes* to delight his English readers; and Mr. David Roberts is also there, sketching the scenery.

Prince Lucien Bonaparte has been on a mission to Turin and was received with great distinction by the King. He is said to be remarkably like the Emperor Napoleon I. He started for Milan on the 15th inst.

General Prim is about to leave Spain to join the camp of Omer Pasha. Queen Isabella has presented him with a magnificent horse.

Abd-el-Kader has given 8,000 francs towards the expense of the Turkish war.

The new Lilliputian five-franc gold pieces are in great favour at Paris, especially with the ladies. An artist has invented a tiny port-monnaie, to be worn on the finger, to contain these little pieces.

A duel has been fought between a gentleman of Florence and an Austrian officer, in consequence of the Florentine contemptuously leaving a box at a theatre on the entry of the Austrian. The officer was wounded. Both this and another duel of a similar origin were fought in the houses of Austrian officers, in order to prevent an interruption by the police.

The *Posen Gazette* learns from the frontier of the kingdom of Poland, that a clue has been found to an insurrection that was to break out in Kalisch, and on other points of Russian Poland. It was expected that a commission would be appointed at Kalisch, for the purpose of investigating the complicity of certain individuals.

The legal confirmation of the betrothal of the Sultan's eldest daughter to Redschid Pasha's son has been celebrated at the Palace at Constantinople with much pomp. A long train of people carried presents from Redschid Pasha to the Palace—"a sight rather barbarous and queer than pretty or imposing;" the danishes, however, were very transparent veils—the prettier the face the more transparent the veil.

Very shameful practices are reported to be going on at Sierra Leone. Numbers of children are kidnapped in the colony and sold to the natives up the country as slaves. Governor Kennedy was very active in the suppression of these proceedings, and had succeeded in his object to some considerable extent. Prior to his assuming the government of the colony, it is computed that upwards of 1,000 children had been sold into captivity from Sierra Leone alone; and so deeply rooted has the practice become in certain districts that the Governor and his council had been obliged to abolish the grand jury, as they could not be induced in any case to find a true bill against parties charged with this crime.

There is little positive news from the Chinese empire. The following is the substance of reports. 1. That the northern army of the rebels is not making much progress, and has captured neither the capital of Peking nor the port of Tien-tsin; so that the reports originated in China, and circulated by the home papers months ago, were very premature, and do not seem likely to be speedily realised. 2. That the reception of the French at Nankin was even less cordial than we have already supposed, and augurs ill for improved intercourse with foreigners in the event of the rebels being ultimately successful. 3. That Shanghai is likely soon to be retaken by, or restored to, the Imperialists—the latter perhaps the more probable, a conspiracy for a surrender having been recently discovered, and 200 of the conspirators put to death; but the spirit of surrender is still alive, and waiting a convenient opportunity to manifest itself.—The exports from China were never on a larger scale.

PREPARATIONS FOR WAR.

Lieutenant-Colonel Mundy, Assistant Quartermaster-General at Kilkenny, has been appointed Military Secretary for War and the Colonies. The offices in Craig's-court, Charing-cross, so long occupied by the Census Commissioners, are to be devoted to his purposes.

Sir Richard England and Sir De Lacy Evans have been appointed to the command of divisions in the expedition to the East, which will include a division of cavalry mustering 2,000 sabres, and placed under the command of the Earl of Lucan, the Earl of Cardigan commanding the light, and Colonel Scarlett the heavy brigade.

Early on Saturday morning, Captain Levinge's troop of Royal Horse Artillery, and the half of the men and horses of the small arm brigade of Captain Anderson's Company were embarked at Woolwich.

The *Neptune*, 120, and the *Bulldog*, 6, left Spithead on Thursday, for the Baltic fleet, bearing the flag of Admiral Corry. The Queen, Prince Albert, and the Royal Family, were present, in the *Fairy*, to witness their departure. The *Neptune* has never before been to sea; but she sailed out in admirable style. The same daring and exuberant enthusiasm which manifested itself on board the *Duke* was displayed on this occasion, and on the giddy top of the main, fore, and mizen trucks, was perched a tar who, holding one hand aloft and with the other wildly waving his hat, expressed alike his daring and his loyalty. Her Majesty and Prince Albert, from the deck of the *Fairy*, acknowledged Jack's enthusiastic loyalty, the Queen by waving her handkerchief, and the Prince his hat. The first destination of the *Neptune* was the Downs, where she would wait orders and despatches for the Baltic

fleet. On Saturday, two more men-of-war steam frigates, the *Odin*, 16 (paddle), Captain Scott, and the *Cruiser*, 16, Commander Douglas, sailed from Spithead for the Baltic. The *Boscawen* was also to go, but in hoisting on board a spare screw for the *St. Jean d'Acre*, 101; she carried away her mainyard, and required a new one. The following ships are now fitting at Portsmouth, to join Sir Charles Napier's fleet—a very respectable squadron in themselves—all but the *Penelope*, *Gorgon*, and *Hecla* being already at Spithead:—*St. George*, 120 guns, Captain Eyres; *Cassini*, 91, Captain Robb (screw); *Prince Regent*, 90, Captain Smith; *Boscawen*, 70, Captain Glanville; *Penelope*, 16, Captain Lyster (paddle); *Desperate*, 8, Captain Chambers (screw); *Hecla*, 6, Captain Holl; *Gorgon*, 6, Captain Cumming (paddle).

The Government have despatched Captain Nolan, of the 15th Hussars, to Constantinople, to buy horses there for the use of the English cavalry. Captain Nolan, judging by his books recently published—has a very practical idea of a horse, and of its value for active service.

The Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade state that, in the event of war, every indirect attempt to carry on trade with the enemy's country will be illegal; but, on the other hand, bona fide trade, not subject to the objections stated, will not become illegal merely because the articles which form the subject matter of that trade were originally produced in an enemy's country.

Letters from Malta of the 14th say that 8,000 English troops had already landed. They are expected to re-embark for the East very shortly. It appears that the *Himalaya* arrived on the 8th, the *Vulcan* and *Emu* on the 11th, and the *Manilla* on the 12th. The *Himalaya* had been in collision with the British brig *Spring*, from Odessa, with wheat, bound to Cork, to the eastward of the Rock. The *Himalaya* towed the damaged vessel into Gibraltar Bay, where she was run aground and became waterlogged; the crew were saved by a boat from Her Majesty's ship *Cruiser*. The *Himalaya* received no damage. These large additions to the population naturally increased the gaiety of the island, and increased also the markets. The Union Club increased their subscribers, and allowed the new officers to join for a month on paying a pound. The Maltese Club members invited the officers of the new regiments to the hospitality of their rooms during their stay. Nothing could have been better arranged than the landing of the troops; not an accident or a misfortune, and the soldiers looked as fresh and in as good order as if just fresh from their barracks. The soldiers mix freely with the inhabitants, who in a quiet way give them a hearty welcome. The coffee-houses were all full, and the Maltese freely treating the soldiers. The wine towards evening, it is said, had its effect on their heads, but did not interfere with their tempers, and everything went on smoothly and pleasantly, not a single complaint having reached the police.

The *Taurus*, screw steam-ship, left Liverpool for Malta on Saturday morning, with detachments of the 41st and 47th regiments on board.

PUBLIC OPINION AND THE REFORM BILL.

There have been several meetings held on Lord John Russell's Reform Bill during the past week, and there are indications that others will shortly come off. A meeting at Yarmouth was attended by the leading men of the liberal interest, and amongst them, W. Torrens M'Cullagh, Esq., late candidate for the borough, and was large and enthusiastic. The following resolutions were carried:—

That this meeting regards with great satisfaction the bill introduced by Lord John Russell to reform and amend the present imperfect representation of the people in Parliament.

That while we declare our cordial approval of the proposed measure of reform, we are bound to express our earnest hope that its provisions may be so modified in committee, as to extend the privileges it is meant to confer upon a greater number of the industrious inhabitants of cities and towns.

That at a time when increased taxation is required to maintain the honour of the country abroad, those upon whom such increased burthens fall have an especial claim to participate in the rights of representation.

That a petition to the House of Commons in favour of the bill be put in course of signature among electors and non-electors, and forwarded to Lord John Russell for presentation; and that the members for the borough be requested by their votes to support its prayer.

On Wednesday a "town's-meeting," presided over by the Mayor, was held in the town-hall, Birmingham. Mr. Scholefield, M.P., attended, and Mr. Muntz, who is engaged on the Small Arms Committee, sent word that he concurred in the resolutions to be submitted to the meeting. The meeting was addressed by Alderman Munton, Mr. W. Matthews (magistrate), Mr. George Edmonds, the clerk of the peace, by Mr. Alderman Hawkes, Mr. Brooke Smith, Mr. Langford, Mr. J. S. Wright, and other gentlemen. By the petition, the meeting urge upon the Government in the most emphatic manner not to abandon the bill, but to persevere to the utmost in carrying it through both Houses of Parliament during the present session. At the same time, they express the opinion that clause twelve, relating to the representation of minorities, is objectionable, and they pray that such clause may not pass. The provision requiring the residence of two-and-a-half years to entitle the occupier of a house rated at upwards of £6 they think is unreasonably long; and they pray that the period of the occupation may be made uniform with that proposed for £10 county voters. Also, that provisions be made, enabling the tenant of a house, the rates of which are compounded for, to deduct from the landlord the amount of rates paid by him to procure registration. Mr. Scholefield, M.P., said that himself and his hon. colleague were of one opinion with respect to Lord John Russell's Reform Bill; and in giving expression to that opinion he wished to say that they both entirely and completely repudiated the teachings

of their friends of what was called "the Manchester school" (cheering)—

For admiring, as he did, the great abilities of Mr. John Bright, and not forgetful of his past services in a good cause, he did feel nevertheless that the conduct of that gentleman, in many respects, especially with reference to this Reform Bill, came so near to prejudice and political bigotry, that it would not have done much discredit to the other side of the House. It appeared as if that hon. gentleman and some of his friends could see nothing but errors, and attribute nothing but unworthy motives to the acts and conduct of the present Government. Now, it must be recollected that the Government, as it existed, was not of necessity; the Whigs broke down from inanition (laughter); the Tories from incompetency; and the Radicals, as usual, were nowhere. (Renewed laughter.) Well, as the old Duke once said, the Queen's Government must be carried on, and the result of circumstances was the present Government, which certainly contained a combination of talent, of administrative ability, and of experience, such as has rarely been seen in this country. (Hear.) By that Government a new Reform Bill had been prepared which certainly did not contain everything that might have been wished, but at least it had in it a great deal of good, and if any individual ever had expected that the Reform Bill of such a Government as now existed would propose the vote by ballot, universal suffrage, or the charter, why certainly his credulity had exceeded his judgment. (Hear and cheers.) Of the minority clause he, as at present advised, disapproved; but he understood (he said) that Lord J. Russell was attached to this part of his scheme, and if the pinch came, he (Mr. S.) would rather swallow the minority clause than endanger the bill altogether. (Cheers.) He was one of those who believed that Ministers were sincerely disposed to carry this measure, and he would be no party to needlessly embarrassing them. (Cheers.) If, on the 27th of April, Lord John Russell announced that he would not proceed further with the measure this session, he, for one, should most deeply regret it; but at the same time, neither would he forget the difficulties Ministers had to contend with.

A meeting was held at Maidstone on Wednesday, at the Corn Exchange, Mr. G. A. Bentlif in the chair. The following resolution was passed unanimously:—

That this meeting desires to record its conviction that, in introducing the new Reform Bill, the Ministers have deserved the grateful acknowledgments of the country, and the cordial support of all sincere Reformers, and it accordingly hopes that the bill may be proceeded with at as early a date as the circumstances will allow, and that it may soon become part of the law of the land. Petitions to both Houses of Parliament were also adopted. The borough members, Messrs. Whatman and Lee, attended the meeting, and spoke in support of the Government measure. From 800 to 1,000 persons were present, and the utmost unanimity characterised the proceedings.

THE LATE MR. JUSTICE TALFOURD.

The career of Mr. Justice Talfourd has been singularly successful, and affords an illustration of the facilities offered to the middle classes in this country of attaining the highest position. He was born at Reading in 1793. His father was a brewer; his mother, the daughter of the Rev. Thomas Noon, Independent minister. He commenced his education at a Dissenting grammar school (Mill Hill), and finished it at one of the public schools. He came to London, and added to his income by his literary exertions. He contributed to magazines, and was a reporter to the *Times*. He was called to the bar in 1821, and was married the next year. It may be said that his prosperity has never had a check. His literary productions—"Ion," "The Athenian Captive," "Glencoe," "Vacation Rambles"—have all been warmly received by the public, while his professional labours have achieved undoubted success. In the course of 1833 he was elected member for his native town, Reading, for which he sat continuously till 1841, when he temporarily retired from Parliament; but he was re-elected for Reading in 1846, and retained his seat till his elevation to the bench. In his representative capacity he introduced two useful measures of legislation, founded upon just principles—namely, the Custody of Infants Act, and the Copyright Act of 1841; and he made some successful speeches. He was made a Judge of the Common Pleas and knighted in 1848, and he is universally admitted to have discharged his judicial duties with discretion, adequate learning, ability, and conscientiousness. It is remarkable, that the intelligence of his appointment to a Judgeship was received in the Court-house, Stafford, which was the scene of his death a few days ago.

At the Middlesex Sessions, the deplorable event was alluded to by Mr. Payne, the barrister. He said:—

I will say of him that he was a man whom elevation did not alter, and whom dignity did not make proud—who, after he was raised to the bench, had the same cheerful smile and the same friendly word for every member of the bar, whether he wore a gown of silk or stuff—whether he was a young man just starting life in his profession, or an old and experienced advocate carrying all before him. Peace be to his memory, say I; and I am sure that all who knew him will most heartily respond Amen!

The Assistant Judge said the feeling of regret at the melancholy event would exhibit itself in every court then sitting in England. Mr. Justice Talfourd was loved and valued by the whole profession; his literary attainments were high and varied; but he was not spoiled by them, and his amiable manners and warm heart endeared him to all.

On Wednesday, Mr. Justice Coleridge, in his charge to the grand jury at the Derby Assizes, made the following allusion to the death of the lamented Judge:

I can hardly part with you without expressing my feelings at the great loss the country, the profession, and a large circle of attached friends have sustained in the awfully sudden death of my brother Talfourd. He was sitting, as I do now, discharging the same duty in which I am engaged, and in the act of addressing the grand jury, when in an instant that eloquent tongue was arrested by the hand of death, and that generous unsold heart was cold. Surely nothing can exemplify

more strikingly the uncertainty of life. There he was, sitting as I am now, administering justice—people were trembling at the thought of having to come before him; but in a minute his function was over, and he was gone to his own account. Gentlemen, as he was the leader of another circuit, and, I believe, had never visited this as a judge, he was probably not much known to you either at the bar or on the bench. His literary performances you can scarcely be ignorant of; but, indeed, he was much more than merely a distinguished leader, an eminent judge, or a great ornament, of our literature. He had one ruling purpose of his life—the doing good to his fellow-creatures in his generation. He was eminently courteous and kind, generous, simple-hearted, of great modesty, of the strictest honour, and of spotless integrity. I am quite sure that he has left a void that cannot easily be filled up. I could not help alluding to this distressing occurrence, the similarity of my present position and employment brought it so forcibly to my mind. I hope you will excuse the allusion I have made to a loss I feel so deeply. I really could hardly dismiss you without indulging in this expression of what is on my mind.

On Monday morning, the mortal remains of the late Sir Thomas Noon Talfourd were removed from his late residence in Russell-square, for interment at the cemetery, Norwood. In the first carriage following the hearse, were the three sons of the deceased, Francis Talfourd, William Talfourd, and Thomas Noon Talfourd, and Mr. P. Talfourd, his brother. The second carriage contained Mr. Paterson Butt, Mr. Northcote Butt, Mr. John Salter, and Mr. William Salter, his brothers-in-law. In the remaining carriages were several private friends of the deceased, the Rev. George Hamilton, who officiated at the interment, and Messrs. Sansum, his first and second clerks. The only private carriages that followed the cortege were the deceased's private carriage, and the carriages of Mr. Justice Wightman, Mr. Baron Platt, Mr. Charles Kean, and Mr. Bickersteth, B.A.

FUGITIVE SLAVES.

PUBLIC MEETING AT CROSBY HALL.

On Monday evening, a very numerous and respectable meeting was held in the great room of Crosby Hall, to hear from the Rev. Samuel Ward, of Toronto, an account of the results of his labours in this country, on behalf of the fugitive slaves in Canada. The room was filled to overflowing, by well-dressed persons, who proved by the strongest manifestations, their sympathy with Mr. Ward, and the great cause of human freedom.

SAMUEL GURNEY, Esq., on taking the chair, lamented that at this time of day, such meetings should be needful, in consequence of the short-sightedness and want of true Christian feeling of the Government and people of America. So long as it was necessary, the friends of the African race must continue to meet, and stimulate each other to renewed and increased exertions in the cause, until the word "slave" should cease amongst men, and everywhere give place to that of "free man." The people of this country occupied a high position amongst men, and he trusted they would ever prove the true friends of humanity. The slaves who escaped to Canada were exposed to tremendous sufferings, and on their arrival at Canada were often in great temporary distress. There was no human heart that would not sympathise with them in their time of trial and affliction. The aid they required was only to a small extent, and for a short period; and, although it might be difficult for the Government of the country to interfere on their behalf, it could not be so for Christian individuals, who felt their obligations to hold out, to men in such circumstances, the hand of Christian liberality, feeling, as they all must do, the warmest sympathy with the victims of oppression. It had been often said by the Americans, Why not relieve your own poor, who are in as bad or worse a condition than these slaves? To this his answers were:—1. The amount of slave population in America was, at least, one-seventh of the whole of the United States. Of poor persons, in an extremely destitute condition in this country, he did not believe there was, in the metropolis, more than one-hundredth part of the population; and throughout the country, still less. 2. In the United States, all that could be done was done, to keep this one-seventh of the whole population in chains, and to rivet those chains; and the benevolent and kind-hearted Christian, who assisted the fugitives to escape, was branded as a criminal, and, if detected, punished as such. On the contrary, everything that could be done by the Government, Legislature, and people of this country, was done to alleviate the distress which existed, and to remove the cause of it. The cases of the two countries, therefore, would not bear a comparison. He would not further detain the meeting, who were anxious to hear his friend Samuel Ward, who having himself been in the unhappy condition of a slave, had come to this country, and engaged his best energies in the work of exciting the humane people of this country to come to the help of the down-trodden and oppressed, in their efforts to escape to that happier land, in which they are sure of the protection of our Queen and Government. (Cheers.)

The report having been read by the secretary, The Rev. SAMUEL WARD presented himself; and the moment he rose, the whole assembly commenced cheering, which lasted several minutes. In that peculiarly forcible and eloquent manner, with which this "stranger from the backwoods of Canada," as he designates himself, engages and delights a British audience, Mr. Ward dwelt on the wrongs of the American slave; on the perils, difficulties, privations, and cruel hardships which the most courageous of them had to encounter, in order to make his escape to a land of freedom; his immediate necessities on his arrival; his industry, loyalty, and rapid improvement in Canada; where he had, by his courage and moral qualities, secured the admiration and respect of the community; of the advantages in point of education, and legal pro-

tection, which were afforded to him on British ground. He then expressed his obligation to the Earl of Shaftesbury, Rev. J. Sherman, the Committee, Treasurer G. W. Alexander, Esq., and the Secretaries, together with those numerous ministers and friends, in town and throughout the country, who had received him in the most hospitable, kind, and friendly spirit. He thanked them from his heart, and implored upon them all, the blessing of God, the protector and friend of all, who helped him that was ready to perish. We regret that our space will not allow us to give more than a mere sketch of Mr. Ward's address, which, coming from a noble heart, went direct to the hearts as well as the understandings of the crowded assembly, and was often interrupted by loud and long continued cheers.

From the report read by the Secretary, as well as Mr. Ward's speech, we learn that £1,195 had been collected; £400 remitted to the Anti-Slavery Society of Canada; and the balance, with whatever addition might be made in the course of the evening, after deducting expenses of travelling, &c., would forthwith be forwarded to Canada in aid of the good cause.

The meeting was afterwards addressed in a very eloquent manner by the Rev. Mr. Macfarlane, Sir E. N. Buxton, Councillor Payne, and Mr. Robert Nicholas Fowler; and the chairman having returned thanks, the meeting dispersed. The latter having shaken hands with the numerous friends of the cause on the platform, observed, "I think we have had a very pleasant evening," and so it was felt by them all.

ARREST OF THE PRESTON LEADERS.

The excitement produced by the importation of strangers to work in the Preston mills seemed to have wholly died away. The number brought in last week was about 300, making the total importation, including children and aged people, amount to nearly 1,000. Whilst these strangers were being introduced, skilled hands continued to leave Preston for employment in other towns. Comparatively few of the turn-outs had resumed work. Mr. J. Swainson (a member of the Masters' Association) made an arrangement with his operatives, and they returned to work on terms declared to be satisfactory alike to employer and employed. Shortly afterwards, however, the association issued a placard, declaring that the hands resuming work were to be paid on the March list of prices. This called forth the subjoined reply, which was signed by five of the hands on behalf of the rest:—

It having been stated (and very erroneously) by the associated masters, in a bill posted on the walls this morning, that Mr. J. Swainson's hands had resumed work at March prices, we request that the associated masters will not trouble themselves respecting the prices or terms on which we have commenced work; we have pleasure in stating that those terms are mutually satisfactory to both the employer and the employed.

Upon this, Mr. Swainson sent for a deputation of his operatives, and intimated that if they would put out a fresh bill, omitting the words previously printed within a parenthesis, viz., "and very erroneously," there would probably be an end of the matter. The hands assented, and another placard was prepared, with the objectionable sentence expunged. But, notwithstanding this, Mr. Swainson was not allowed to pay more than last March prices, when the beams then in the looms were woven down, as the alternative of forfeiting his bond of £5,000 to the employers' association; and the consequence was, that the hands were again leaving work.

On Sunday there was another monster meeting at Droylsden, a village between Manchester and Ashton. Owing to the sudden inclemency of the weather, it was not so large as the former gatherings; but the week's income was announced to be £2,100.

For the Preston meeting on Monday, an innkeeper at the outskirts of the town offered the use of a field adjacent to his house. Several thousands had assembled at noon, when Mr. Cowell announced, that "in consequence of the pressure from without," the innkeeper had been reluctantly compelled to revoke his offer, and the meeting could not be held there. Mr. Cowell added, "It will be high time for us, when we resume work, to look to our own interests, and not to be beholden to those men who own all the property, and who deny us the right to meet for the discussion of our grievances. I hope the working classes will take a hint from these things, and hereafter provide a meeting place of their own." In dismissing the people, Mr. Cowell said, "I hope you will, each and all, mind what you say and what you do, for the police are out in plain clothes to entrap those who are not on their guard. I understand, also, that the authorities are trying to get up some charge of conspiracy against myself and a few others. Well, they may do so; I don't say that they cannot do it. But they can't imprison us before next August, and by that time, I hope, we shall have our 10 per cent. and be peaceably at work. Let us go quietly on, as we have done hitherto, and you may depend upon it we shall be able to live as long as the manufacturers can afford to let their machinery stand."

It seems that Mr. Cowell was not wrong in his apprehensions; for the electric telegraph reported on Monday night his arrest, with that of Grimshaw and Waddington.

Court, Personal, and Political News.

The Queen embarked at Osborne on Friday, and, passing through the war-ships that remained at Spithead, landed at Gosport, and proceeded by railway for London. The Royal party arrived at Buckingham Palace shortly before six o'clock.

The Earl of Clarendon, Chevalier Bunsen, and

General Count de Groeben, had audience of the Queen on Wednesday, and dined with her Majesty.

The Duchess of Kent paid a visit of congratulation to her Majesty early on Saturday, the birthday of the Princess Louisa.

A Cabinet Council was held at the Foreign Office on Saturday, which sat three hours and a half. Lord John Russell was prevented attending by a cold.

Baron Groeben arrived last week in London on a special mission from the Prussian Government, instructed, it is said, to explain how Prussia stands in relation to the Eastern question. He has returned to Berlin.

Among the passengers in the *Baltic* from New York, was the Hon. F. Hincks, Prime Minister of Canada.

The Earl of Clarendon gave a grand banquet on Wednesday. Among the guests were the Duke of Cambridge, the French Ambassador, Lord and Lady Raglan, Sir Hamilton and Lady Seymour, and Lord Brougham.

The Lord Lieutenant of Ireland has, through Major Larcom, expressed his "strong disapproval," not only of the manner of the decision of Mr. O'Callaghan, in the great tract case, but of the decision itself. It will be remembered that Mr. O'Callaghan ordered one Smith to find bail because he offered a tract in the street to a Mr. O'Brennan—the latter alleging that the offer of a Protestant tract to him, a Roman Catholic, was likely to make him commit a breach of the peace.

The will and codicils of the late Sir Ralph Lopes were last week proved in the Prerogative Court of the Archbishop of Canterbury. The personal estate within the diocese was sworn under £180,000.

Kossuth visited the Crystal Palace one day last week. His presence caused a sensation among the workmen, who testified their sympathy for the principle and the cause personified by the Governor of Hungary by a spontaneous manifestation, saluting him as he passed accompanied by M. Pulsky and his usual suite.

Several bankers and merchants of the City of London have addressed a petition to the House of Lords against the proposed transfer of testamentary jurisdiction to the Court of Chancery, and in favour of the establishment of an independent court, to be called "The Queen's Court of Probate."

On the first of April and thenceforward, increased facilities will be afforded in procuring money orders, and obtaining payment of them, when such payment is to be made through a bank. The Postmaster-General has directed that some of the precautions required for the security of ordinary money orders shall in these cases be dispensed with.

The names of Dr. Hook and the Rev. Canon Hamilton have been mentioned in connexion with the vacant see of Salisbury. It is also mentioned that the Rev. John James Blunt, Margaret Professor of Divinity at Cambridge University, had declined the bishopric. The latter, says the *Daily News*, though called one of the High Church party, is considered to be a liberal and excellent man.

The *Morning Post* states that the vacant seat on the Bench has been offered to Sir Frederick Thesiger; who, while gratified at the manner in which the offer was made, feels compelled to decline the honour. [The *Daily News* mentions "Mr. Crowder as the probable successor of Mr. Justice Talfourd."]

We (*Daily News*) are enabled to state that despatches have been forwarded to Newfoundland, conceding the demands for responsible government, and informing the colonists that the island will be put upon the same footing as Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia.

The intended reduction of postage between this country and the colonies to a uniform rate of 6d., on letters not weighing more than half an ounce, is now about to come into operation, with respect to all those colonies the postal direction of which rests with the Postmaster-General, and in respect to such other colonies as had notified their concurrence in the arrangement in time to be included in this first measure. On the 23d inst. the reduction will take place with regard to the following colonies, viz., Canada, Prince Edward Island, Bermuda, British West Indies (Barbadoes and Turk's Island excepted), British Guiana, Bahamas, Belize, Malta, and Gibraltar; and on the 1st of May the same reduction will be made in the postage on letters between this country and Ceylon, Hong-Kong, St. Helena, and the Gold Coast.

Mrs. Chisholm has taken her passage on board the *Ballarat*, which will sail for Port Phillip on the 3rd proximo.

On Saturday, the directors of the East India Company gave a banquet, at the London Tavern, to Lord Harris, previous to his departure as Governor of Madras. Mr. Russell Ellice, chairman of the Court of Directors, presided. The Duke of Newcastle said, that he felt that the response to the toast, "The health of her Majesty's Ministers," he regarded not so much as a testimony of political concord or agreement with the general administration of affairs, but as a proof that, in the present political aspect of affairs, the Government charged with the administration of the interests of the empire will meet with that confidence and fair appreciation that will enable them to carry out those important operations in which he feared, unfortunately, they were about to be concerned. (Cheers.)

It is stated in a country exchange, though we cannot vouch for its accuracy, that the Rev. Dr. Raffles and the Rev. Dr. Halley are about to proceed together on a tour to the East. They purpose spending some time in Rome, and then making their way direct to Jerusalem.

The Earl of Lichfield, known in connexion with "The Lichfield House Compact," died on Saturday, in his 60th year. The deceased peer was always a strong adherent to the political principles of the Whig party, and from 1835 to 1841 he held the office of Postmaster-General under Viscount Melbourne's administration, having been previously Master of the Buckhounds. He was a warm supporter of the turf, and was Postmaster-General when the penny postage sys-

tem came into operation. He succeeded in the title and estates by Thomas George, Viscount Anson, M.P. for Lichfield, in the representation of which city a vacancy consequently occurs.

Law, Police, and Assize.

The long-standing case of the corporation of London *versus* Combe, Delafield, and Company, has at length come to an end. In 1839, the Corporation attempted to enforce the payment of the metage of grain brought up the river Thames by the defendants and conveyed to their brewery. The defendants resisted, and filed a cross-bill for the discovery of the muniments, titles, and books, under which the claim was made. Vice-Chancellor Knight Bruce made an order for the production of those documents; and against that order the Corporation appealed to the House of Lords. This appeal, pending for a long time, was finally heard on Tuesday. The Solicitor-General, on behalf of the Corporation, said that the parties had made an arrangement by which the appeal would be abandoned. For a considerable period, he said, the Corporation had contemplated a settlement of the rights of metage in a manner beneficial to the public at large; and though that arrangement is not yet complete, he might anticipate its results and not proceed with the appeal. The bill of discovery, therefore, would no longer be requisite. The appellants will pay the costs of the appeal.

James Tucker, a young man, has been committed from Guildhall police-court for embezzling his master's money and for attempting to kill him. Mr. Umpleby gave Tucker into custody when he found him to be a defaulter; at the police-station, while Mr. Umpleby was close to the inspector on duty, Tucker drew out a pistol and fired at his master; fortunately, the bullet missed its object. Tucker pretends that the pistol went off accidentally as he was taking it from his pocket.

Thomas Gooden, a lad of sixteen, is in custody for stabbing Robert Faulkner, another boy. Both were employed at the Westminster Marble Works, Holywell-street; they had a dispute while at work; when the workpeople went away for the night, Faulkner pushed Gooden in the street, and Gooden pulled out a knife and stabbed him in the bowels. Faulkner is in great danger.

A number of wretches have been sent to prison by the magistrates this week for assaulting women.

Mr. Stephen Smith, a rent-collector, has been fined £5 by the Lambeth magistrate for giving a receipt for £6 without a stamp. The prosecution was at the instance of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue; the informer was the person who paid the money.

At the last York assizes, Mr. Justice Coleridge refused the costs in a poaching case in which the Earl of Harewood was prosecutor, on the ground that those who preserve game for their amusement ought to pay all the expenses attendant upon it. Last week, two men were tried for complicity in the same poaching outrage; they were convicted. When applied to, Mr. Baron Platt allowed the costs: he did not consider Lord Harewood differently in such a case from the meanest person in society, and thought he was entitled to his costs.

Mrs. Sarah Draper has been convicted at Nottingham of the manslaughter of Mrs. Phoebe Foster. The accused, a monthly nurse, after some experience in a London hospital, set up as midwife. In attempting to deliver Mrs. Foster, she used such violence as caused her death; Mrs. Foster being of a very weak and relaxed habit. Several persons spoke highly of Mrs. Draper as nurse and midwife. The jury strongly recommended her to mercy. The Judge willingly received the recommendation: at the same time, he said, persons must be warned not to undertake duties for which they have not the requisite scientific knowledge. Sentence, three months' imprisonment, with hard labour.

At the Exeter assizes, on Thursday, Maria White obtained £400 damages from a Mr. Willes, for breach of promise of marriage. It appears that she was the daughter of an agricultural labourer, and that the day for the wedding was fixed several times. She was seduced by the defendant, who subsequently refused to fulfil his engagement. It appears that the defendant was 50 years of age, a little bald and asthmatic. Mr. Collier addressed the jury in mitigation of damages. He could imagine a girl's feelings relative to a breach of an engagement to one of her own age; but where was the girl who broke her heart for an old man of fifty? and, although men retained their faculties and energies to an older age, yet they might depend upon it that after they had arrived at the age of forty-five no woman would die for them.

Several persons were indicted at the same assizes for disturbances at Exminster, on the 9th inst., in connexion with the bread riots. They were all convicted—one of the men, a ringleader, was sentenced to be imprisoned for nine months with hard labour. There were five of them who were 18 years of age; they were sentenced to be imprisoned for six months with hard labour; and, as to the rest, judgment was respited. If they behave well they will hear no more of it.

A curious libel case was tried at Cambridge on Saturday. Mr. Reid, a member of the town council, and poor law guardian of Wisbeach, brought an action against Mr. Gardiner, proprietor of the *Wisbeach Advertiser*, a monthly journal. The trial occupied nearly two days. The libel alleged that the plaintiff had made overtures of an equivocal character to one Miss Mary Elizabeth Ratcliffe, without success, and that, the passion of the plaintiff being foiled, he determined to gratify his revenge, and had, by violence and intimidation, compelled the Rev. Isaac Haycroft, the minister of a Baptist chapel in Wisbeach, to sign a paper, admitting that he had had an improper acquaintance with that lady, and promising to marry her within

a specified time; and that, the affair having been noised abroad, an inquiry had been instituted by the congregation into the conduct of the minister, which had resulted in his "complete exoneration," while the lady had been subjected to an examination by medical men, who had pronounced that there was no ground for the statement in reference to her. The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff, with damages one farthing. Lord Campbell.—Gentlemen, I entirely approve of your verdict.

At Derby, on Friday, Ann Martin, aged sixty, was indicted for the murder of her daughter's infant child, at Codnor, by drowning her in a well. The jury returned a verdict of *Not Guilty*, on the ground of insanity; and the prisoner was ordered to be detained during her Majesty's pleasure.

Samuel Kent, aged 44, railway guard, George Cawood, aged 30, engine-driver, and John Smeeton, aged 28, engine-driver, were indicted for the manslaughter of Michael Barkes, arising from an accident which happened on the Rowsley branch of the Midland Railway, on the 4th of October last, between Ambergate and Matlock, near to a station called the Whatstandwell-bridge station. The facts were brought fully before the public at the time of the inquiry before the coroner. The jury found all the prisoners *Guilty*. The learned Judge sentenced Kent to imprisonment for eighteen, and Cawood and Smeeton for twelve months, with hard labour.

After a final examination, on Friday, Adolphus Harrison, *alias* Feichtal, and Alexandre Desaux, the father of Madame Denis, were committed to take their trial for the charges arising out of the case of the Belgian girl, Alice Leroy. The Westminster magistrate refused to take bail. Notwithstanding the reward offered, Madame Denis and her husband have hitherto eluded the exertions made by the police to apprehend them. They are supposed to be abroad. It is stated that attempts have been made to induce the girl, Alice Leroy, to leave England before the trial. Since her escape from the house she has received a letter from Madame Denis, in which that person urges her to go abroad, and tells her that she will send her money, and make her independent. The poor girl is under the care of the police.

At the Clerkenwell police-court, on Saturday, George Henshaw, a stonemason, living at 39, Waterloo-street, St. Luke's, was placed before Mr. Corrie, charged with the murder of his wife, Jane Henshaw, aged about 37. The appearance of the unfortunate man indicated insanity; and the evidence went to show that on Saturday morning he left home about nine o'clock, and found his way to the residence of his sister, 14, Hall's-terrace, City-road, where he arrived with his clothes saturated with wet, as if he had been attempting to drown himself. Nothing could be got from him except ejaculations with respect to his "poor dear wife," with whom he was known to live on the most affectionate terms. On sending to look for the wife and entering her apartment a horrible sight presented itself. The poor wife was found with her head literally battered to pieces, and her throat cut and jagged most frightfully. In the fireplace was found a hatchet covered with blood and brains. On the police proceeding to take the accused into custody, they found him in bed at his sister's house, and, in answer to their questions, all that could be got from him was that he was wet and cold. His conduct before the magistrate was equally incoherent, and it was proved that in consequence of want of work and apprehension of the workhouse his mind had become much affected. He had several times threatened self-destruction, and since had threatened to blow his brains out. He accompanied his wife to bed early on Friday evening, and no noise whatever was heard during the night. The supposition, therefore, is that the unfortunate man, in a fit of delirium, must have commenced the destruction of his wife while she was asleep. The magistrate, having heard the evidence, remanded the accused till Tuesday.

Accidents and Offences.

Stabbing is a fashionable crime at Liverpool. It is extending to the young. The other day two little boys quarrelled, and one quickly plunged a penknife into the other.

Colonel Gordon, brother of Sir J. A. Gordon, K.C.B., Governor of Greenwich Hospital, left Greenwich on Wednesday to proceed to the Birmingham Railway, and was found dead in the Railway carriage.

During the week no less than three women have died in the metropolis from want of food and consequent exhaustion.

Lord Gilbert Norman Grosvenor, son of the Marquis of Westminster, died suddenly on board the *Boscawen*, 71, as she was leaving Spithead for the Baltic, on Monday. She was ordered to send the corpse ashore, and have to for that purpose, after which she pursued her course. Lord Grosvenor's death is said to have been the sudden termination of illness induced by a too free indulgence in ardent drink. He had served as lieutenant on board her Majesty's yacht.

An Irishman, living in Leicester (says the local *Mercury*), whose wife died from a diseased heart on Sunday last, attempted to take the handkerchief from off her neck while she was lying dead, for the purpose of procuring drink. This being prevented, he took the shawl of his deceased helpmate, pledged it, and with the money got drunk, created a disturbance, and raised a crowd of several hundreds of people in the street.

A lunatic in the parish church of Frome, at the conclusion of the sermon on Sunday week, rushed out of the pew and ascended the steps leading to the pulpit, apparently with the intention of committing an assault on the clergyman; but, as afterwards appeared, for the purpose of asking him for an explanation of certain portions of his sermon. Several of the congregation

immediately hastened to the assistance of the rev. gentleman, and after the confusion arising from the unexpected occurrence, and from the screaming and fainting of several of the female portion of the congregation had subsided, the unfortunate man was conveyed to the guard-house, and on the following morning was taken before the magistrates, when it was proved he was of unsound mind, and was therefore sent to the lunatic asylum.

Mr. Frederick de Molyns, formerly a member of parliament for the county of Kerry, and nephew of an Irish peer, died suddenly in Newgate on Friday night last. It will be recollected that he was committed to that prison by the Lord Mayor from the Mansion-house, on the charge of uttering a forged power of attorney, and obtaining thereon the amount of £1,500 stock &c., in the Bank of England, belonging to a person of the name of Simpson. Mr. de Molyns was unable to procure the extent of bail demanded (£4,000), and was in consequence conveyed to Newgate.

Birmingham during the past week has had an unenviable distinction for tragedies. William Taylor, a young shoemaker of that town, has attempted murder, and committed suicide. He had been unwell for some time, and his mind had been affected. On Monday morning in last week, Miss Walton, the landlord's daughter, called to receive the week's rent; Taylor's mother paid it. Miss Walton asked William how he did; immediately sprang upon her with a razor, and cut her severely. Mr. Taylor endeavoured to save her, and received some wounds himself. The maniac then gashed his own throat, and died in a few minutes. On Friday, a young man named Samuel Speak, little more than twenty years of age, committed both murder and suicide. In the morning he went out, before breakfast, with a cousin, and showed him a pistol borrowed from a friend. He also had some lead, and having cut it into slugs, went away, saying, "Now I'll go and have a good shot; there's some good waste ground near our house." After breakfast he was left alone with his mother, his cousin, Mary Dodd, having retired to a small pantry, leaving the door open, and the young man speaking to his mother. She heard the report of a pistol. Instantly the place was full of smoke, and in a moment after, she saw her aunt falling from her chair, covered with blood. The youth Speak was standing close beside her. "Oh, Sam," cried the girl, "What are you doing?" but he made no reply. He merely turned and looked at her for a moment, and ran up stairs. The girl's cries having been heard by Mr. G. F. Dodd, he immediately proceeded into the room, and his brother, Mr. Thomas Dodd, descended from the attic. Another report of fire-arms was heard, and, on proceeding to the front bed-room, they found the unhappy youth, who had murdered his mother, lying by the side of the bed, shot through the head by his own hand. Both mother and son were dead.

Miscellaneous News.

A line of steamers has been advertised to run from Hull to the Prussian port of Pillau, in the Baltic, taking goods for Memel, &c., with the view of carrying on the trade between England and Russia. It is to consist of screw propellers of about 700 tons.

Yelf, the fraudulent Isle of Wight actuary, died at the Millbank Penitentiary last week.

The lambing season has, on the whole, been extremely favourable in the western counties. This has been the case especially in the north of Devon, where vast numbers of Exmoor sheep are bred.

The parish of St. Mary Islington has resolved, by 1,011 to 202 votes, to authorise the burial board to borrow £20,000 for providing a new cemetery for the parish.

It appears by a return recently made on the motion of Mr. Bass, M.P., that the number of licensed victuallers in England and Wales in 1853 was 61,040, and of persons licensed to sell beer to be drunk on the premises, 40,913. The number of licensed victuallers in Scotland was 14,812; and in Ireland, 15,280.

The Irish workhouses had above 1,000 acres of land under cultivation at Michaelmas last, either wholly or partially, by the boys in the workhouses, the number of boys so employed being 3,783; and 3,196 boys were being instructed in trades, as tailors, shoemakers, and the like. The whole number of boys (between 9 and 15) in the workhouses was 12,320; of girls, 14,273. Of the girls, 9,166 were under industrial training. The instruction occupies four or five hours a-day. During the previous year above 5,000 boys and girls obtained employment outside their workhouses.

On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday last, Mr. Henry Vincent concluded his lectures on the Commonwealth, at Faversham, in Kent. The Assembly Room was crowded to overflowing, and, though the town has hitherto had a reputation for Toryism, all parties and religions were represented. It was highly gratifying to find, not only Dissenters and Reformers, but Church clergymen and Conservatives, applauding the Puritan and liberal principles of the Commonwealth age. A handsome surplus, the result of these lectures, will be presented to one of the Philanthropic Institutions of Kent. On Thursday and Friday Mr. Vincent addressed two crowded meetings in the little town of Bishop's Stortford. The place was famous for the riotous conduct of the people at an Anti-state-church meeting some time since. But light is now breaking upon it, and a very different reception will be given in future to Nonconformist principles. Mr. Hawkes, a large brewer, occupied the chair, and unreservedly endorsed the radical principles of Mr. Vincent. The audiences contained several farmers, and were of Tory opinions, but the proceedings were characterised by great unanimity and enthusiasm.

The office of President of Christ's Hospital is vacant in consequence of the death of Alderman Thompson.

It is customary to appoint the Lord Mayor for the time being to any such vacancy; but some of the City mere chants wish to depart from that custom on the present occasion, and have formed a committee to promote the return of the Duke of Cambridge. At a meeting of the Common Council, on Monday, the question was discussed as one affecting the privileges of the Corporation, and the following resolution carried with acclamation:—"That the office of President of Christ's Hospital having for a great many years been uniformly filled by a member of the Court of Aldermen, this court is of opinion, that no reason exists for a departure from that precedent, and that the appointment of any other person, however exalted, to that honourable office, would be an infringement of the ancient privileges of this Corporation, and prejudicial to the independence and interests of the citizens of London." The election takes place to-morrow (Thursday).

St. Martin's Hall has acquired a deserved popularity as the scene of a series of oratorio performances, under the direction of Mr. Hullah, at a lower price than is offered elsewhere. For one shilling the public may now enjoy the advantage of hearing the *chef d'œuvres* of Handel, Haydn, and Mendelssohn, performed in a finished style, and with all the resources of an excellent orchestra, chorus, and solo performers. It is not, therefore, surprising that the "Creation," "Judas Maccabeus," and other works, have attracted very crowded audiences to St. Martin's Hall. On Wednesday Mr. Hullah, for the first time, conducted Mendelssohn's "Elijah." This was the most arduous essay yet made by this energetic musician, and the most successful. He showed that his resources were fully adequate to the task, and his performance of this oratorio has not been surpassed, on the whole, by any that has ever been given in London. The chorus, as usual, consisted of the members of his first upper singing school. The part of the prophet was sustained by Mr. Weiss; the other principal parts were sung by Mrs. Endersohn, Miss Dolby, Madame Weiss, and Mr. Augustus Brahman; and two young singers, Miss Dianelli and Mr. M. Smith, took part in the concerted pieces very satisfactorily. The choristers were carefully selected and sedulously trained; every individual among them was able to sing; and the result was, that their united voices produced a rich and beautiful volume of sound, uncontaminated by any admixture of noise. The hall was crowded to the doors; and, as there is no restraint at these performances on the manifestation of feeling, the audience gave free vent to their expressions of satisfaction.

Literature.

The Russians of the South. By SHIRLEY BROOKS. (Traveller's Library.) London: Longman and Co.

MR. SHIRLEY BROOKS does not inform us *when or why* he made his sojourn among "the Russians of the South;" and, if we had been required to select a likely name for the authorship of a good work on such a topic, his would have been about the last to occur to us. It certainly represents a great deal of cleverness and literary skill; but we had no previous ground for associating with it the serious purposes, the patience of inquiry, and the power of observing and generalising truly, which such a work would seem to demand. Notwithstanding, here is such a book; and Shirley Brooks is the author. Its perusal has, consequently, afforded us the pleasure of a surprise, as well as the advantage of solid instruction, and the recreation of amusing reading.

The author shows some of the best qualities for travel and observation,—the faculty of seeing clearly the general aspects, or *wholes*, in nature and society, presented to his view; joined to acute discernment of the characteristic features, and of the minute details of parts;—the prerequisites of trained habits and good information, enabling him to take in the bearings of his social facts, and appreciate the questions they involve or help to solve;—and the power of reproducing the impressions of personal observation, and of conveying the results of inquiry, in a vivacious and spirited narrative. The result is, a little book crowded with valuable information, and of great literary excellence, giving within a brief space a clearer and fuller account of Southern Russia, its people and its commerce, than, so far as we know, can be found anywhere besides.

It is to the agriculture and serf system of Russia that Mr. Brooks has chiefly turned his attention. Additionally, he gives us a good notion of the state of the civil and military services in the South, and a realizable sketch of the great commercial port of Odessa. We marked, as we read, many parts for extract, but find that all must give way to some passages on the former topics.

AGRICULTURE AND THE SERFS.

"The three divisions of Podolia, Kiev, and Wolhynia, are conjointly the great corn-producing districts of the empire, and a description applicable to one is, with unimportant differences, applicable to the whole. These three provinces, at this moment shaven and bare, afford, towards harvest season, a wonderful display. Regions apparently illimitable stretch away on every side, presenting in unrivalled vastness the spectacle of a sea of waving corn—an expanse whose wealth the eye, overpowered with its hugeness, vainly struggles to embrace and appreciate. There ripens the treasure of the thousand granaries of Europe—there rolls the golden flood destined to break upon a hundred shores. The land upon which this mighty harvest waves is, generally speaking, the property of Polish gentlemen of 'noble' birth. The estates

into which it is divided are usually very large, and are inhabited by a population of serfs, whose residences are congregated in villages. . . . In laying the soil of these districts, nature has been most kind. A fine rich mould, varying in depth, which, however, is always considerable, rests upon an argillaceous basis, or upon one of calcareous stone. The various landowners of whom I have sought information, have habitually admitted that this soil is, naturally unexceptionable for corn purposes; and, upon their opinion of its merits, they defend a practice which the English farmer will scarcely believe possible. Little manure is used in these countries, at least for the purposes of fertilization. It is thrown away—treated as a nuisance; and the agriculturist does not scruple to avow his conviction—first, that the land does not and cannot require manuring; and secondly, that the soil would be actually injured by such application. With my English habits of reverence for the agent thus unworthily treated—having in boyish days, seen it placed in juxtaposition with the most revered of all things, and having many a time transcribed the apophthegm, that 'money, like manure, was only valuable when spread,' I was scarcely prepared to believe that an article so honoured in England, could be so scorned in Russia. My investigations have therefore been the more searching. The result has confirmed the statement originally made. Manure is not used, as such, in the corn provinces of Russia. It is used, however, if use the practice may be called. [They have "no real roads in these provinces;" but they mend the holes in such bullock tracks as they have *with manure*; and rejoice that it encourages the growth of grass which the bullocks may get a bite of.] . . . The course of cultivation is this. The Russian farmer divides his land into three parts, equal or unequal according to circumstances, but, from necessity, of no very great difference. In the same year he sows one of these divisions with wheat, a second with oats or barley, and the third remains fallow. In the next year the division previously sown with wheat is sown with oats, the oats division is left fallow, and the fallow division is sown with wheat. In the third year, which completes the farming cycle, the wheat division of the first year is fallow, the oats division of the first year is sown with wheat, and the fallow division of the first year, being the wheat division of the second, is sown with oats. Thus the rotation is formed; and thus it will appear that one-third of the farmer's land is constantly out of cultivation. The vast size of the estates in these provinces enables the agriculturist thus to recruit his land in some degree by allowing it these incessant holidays. And this system affords the means by which the Russian farmer is enabled to dispense with manure. 'What should I manure my land for?' said a many-acred nobleman to me; 'when it has done its work for the present I can lay it aside, and take to it again when refreshed.'

But the general impression is abroad, that the land of the corn district, originally so rich, is becoming impoverished under the system to which it is subjected; that the produce is not what it used to be; and that, some time or other, a change of system will become necessary. . . . But the system of cultivation will be better understood when I have adverted to the relation the labourer bears to the soil. The Russian serf is, to all intents and purposes, the absolute property of his master. Nominally and publicly, and in the private conversation of those who know themselves to be under official cognizance, it is the custom to speak of him as a being attached to the soil—one of the *adscripti glebe*—and by no means as in the condition which Englishmen understand as slavery. It is not worth while to cavil about words. The serf is born a serf; is unable, without his owner's leave, to depart from the estate upon which he is born; and is bound to give a large portion of his time and labour to the cultivation of that estate, without fee, hire, or reward. He may not, according to law, be flogged by his owner beyond the amount of five lashes at a time; but, as a most kind-hearted owner of many thousand slaves said to me a few days since, 'What signifies that restriction? The law provides that I shall give my slave only five lashes at a time. But the law does not say how far that "time" shall be from the next "time." Suppose I supply the law's defect, and say five minutes, I do not think the serf is much a gainer by the law.' . . . If a serf displeases his master, the latter has only to signify to the governor of the district that he wishes the offender transported to Siberia, and the government immediately charges itself with the care of the serf, conditionally only on the master's becoming responsible for the expense of transit to the place of transportation. . . . To this must be added, although there is a show of denial of the fact, that a serf *can* be removed from estate to estate at the good pleasure of his proprietor, although an attempt at legislation affected to place some restrictions upon this kind of removal. . . . The ordinary quantity of labour exacted from the Russian serf, was formerly precisely that which it pleased his lord to demand. But this condition of things has been amended; and custom, and the attempt at legislative interference already alluded to, have practically settled the time at about three days in the week. . . . On three days the serf works for his lord—on the remaining days of the week he is at liberty to cultivate his own ground for his own support."

Mr. Brooks subsequently enters into a full and minute account of the social and moral condition of the serfs; and gives a sketch of the life of one, which dramatically realizes the principal points on which he otherwise dwells. The story is deeply interesting—too long to be quoted—and worth everybody's reading. The more formal report on the condition of the serfs, represents it as very oppressed, miserable, ignorant, and degraded.

In touching upon public and social life, the author confirms those impressions about the prevailing corruption, secrecy, hollowiness, and pretentiousness of Russian society, and of the Russian administrative system in all its parts, which we English have derived from such of our unbiassed countrymen as have had good opportunities for personal observation; and by no means lends any countenance, by his facts or statistics, so far as they go, to Mr. Cobden's view of things as they are in the empire of the Czar. We may add, too, that he describes the Greek priesthood in these plain and strong words:—"As depraved and worthless a priesthood as ever taught superstition to ignorance." We have already intimated that Mr. Brooks does not forget the grave questions which are matters of interest to the philanthropist to-day, and may become difficult problems to the statesman to-morrow. We only regret that we cannot give

more extracts, especially on these questions, from his most admirable and almost invaluable little work.

The Journal of Classical and Sacred Philology.
No. 1. Cambridge University Press. London:
G. Bell.

We announced the intended appearance of this journal, at the commencement of the year; and now welcome the first number as one of the most encouraging signs of the state of scholarship in England that has occurred for some years. It bears witness, also, to the existence of a body of true and liberal-minded scholars in the great universities, and principally at Cambridge, more numerous and of a more promising character than has often been the case. Considering that there is no other journal specially devoted to philological learning, and no organ of communication between scholars, we expect a wide acceptance and full success for the new quarterly here so ably and auspiciously commenced. The first paper is a historical and literary criticism of Süvern's celebrated essay on the "Birds of Aristophanes." Süvern's main points are: that, over and above the avowed purpose of "exhibiting to the public eye a view of the extreme corruption, perversity, and vanity of the Athenian life and manners in general," Aristophanes had the special design of exposing the Sicilian expedition, as "conceived by Alcibiades, with a view to make himself Despot of Athens, and through Athens of Greece. The writer of this paper maintains, on the contrary, that this theory "is inconsistent with the whole tenor of the play, and the facts of history; is unsupported by evidence; contrary to analogy, and alien to the nature of ancient comedy." Among other points, made and defended with much acuteness and learning, the writer contends particularly, that it is "demonstrably false, that Aristophanes meant to warn his countrymen that the result of the expedition would be, to invest Alcibiades with the *Βασιλεία*;" and that, as the theory "may be disproved so far as Alcibiades is concerned, it *all* falls to the ground." He concludes his inquiry into the facts that bear on the theory thus:—

"So far from Aristophanes having any occasion in the middle of March [when the play was first produced] to warn his countrymen against the growing power of Alcibiades at Athens, he had been for five months an exile, had been condemned to death, for what appeared to the people in their then temper the most revolting of crimes, and was known to be most zealous in the service of the enemy."

In a following examination of the details of the theory, "Süvern's allegory" is, in our judgment, completely exploded, so that the writer may justly say:—

"It is one of the many attempts which dull commentators have so often made upon works of imagination and humour, to find some hidden signification, whether metaphysical thesis or hard matter of fact, beneath the brilliant surface, and 'give the astonished bard a meaning all their own.' Pope's burlesque commentary on the Rape of the Lock is not a whit more absurd than the sober earnestness of Professor Süvern."

A very learned essay on Lucretius, treats principally of the edition of Lachmann, which placed the criticism of "the greatest of extant Latin poets," "once and for ever, on a sure basis;" but which leaves room for this writer's attempts to emend some corrupt passages, and to throw light on others misunderstood by Lachmann. We imagine that the results arrived at will be regarded as valuable by scholars. Another essay, on "St. Paul and Philo," is designed to show, that the remarks on the *Earthly man* and *Heavenly man*, introduced by the Apostle into his first epistle to the Corinthians, "are written with an express reference to the doctrines of Philo;" and that "by inverting the order of the two men as it stands in Philo, St. Paul has left us a direct and studied refutation of the very passage to which he alludes." The coincidence has not been generally noted: even the best critical expositors do not refer to it. If the conclusion is not adopted; that there is designed reference to Philo, at least it will be admitted that this essay is interesting, ingenious, and suggestive. A very useful article "On the Dating of Ancient History," is full of information and hints for which students will be grateful. If we could find room, we should willingly quote from yet another, "On the Study of the Bible among our Forefathers:" containing a notice of "the early scholars in communion with the Celtic church—the period being that which preceded the invasions of the Northmen." This paper is the first of a series which promises to be very interesting, and to prove serviceable to the illustration of the rise and progress of sacred learning in this country, by its embodiment of the fruit of much unusual research. We can only further observe, that numerous Adversaria and Anecdotes, with correspondence, reviews of books, and almost the completest possible account of the contents of foreign journals, compiled with extraordinary care and pains, make up the rest of this excellent number. It is to be hoped that no indifference among the readers for whom such a journal is designed, will occasion its early abandonment. It deserves, and we trust will have, a long, prosperous, and useful career.

BIRTHS.

March 16th, the wife of Mr. G. H. FREAN, Plymouth, of a son.
March 16th, at Cheltenham, the wife of the Rev. Dr. MORTON BROWN, of a son.
March 18th, at Edinburgh, Mrs. JAMES WARDLAW, of a daughter.

March 18th, at 42, Clarendon-square, Leamington, the wife of THOMAS WALKER, Esq., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

March 14th, at the Baptist Chapel, Emworth, Hants, by the Rev. J. Millard, of Lynton, Mr. W. SILVERLOCK, to EUNICE, eldest daughter of Mr. THOMAS BLAVER, Emworth.

March 14th, at the Parish Church, Midhurst, by the Rev. P. Gough, M.A., Mr. GEORGE BLAVER, of Reigate, to EMMA, second daughter of Mr. HENRY FITZMAN, Midhurst.

March 16th, at St. Barnabas Church, Homerton, Middlesex, by the Rev. J. Daniels, JOHN GROOM, Esq., of 12, Crescent, Birmingham, to Miss JANE Mc LAREN, of the former place.

March 16th, at Prince's-street Chapel, Norwich, by the Rev. Henry Howard, Mr. JAMES BENNETT, Junr., woollen draper, Tomblond, to MARY ANNE, only daughter of R. D. HOLL, Esq., Mount Pleasant, and widow of the late Mr. GEORGE HANWORTH, all of the city of Norwich.

March 16th, at the Independent Chapel, Weymouth, Dorset, by the Rev. J. Cheney, Mr. GEORGE JOHNSON, of Broadwindsor, to Miss SUSAN SYMES, of Netherbury.

March 18th, at the Baptist Chapel, Chester-street, Wrexham, by the Rev. I. Brooks, Mr. EMOS KIDSON, of Hope, to HARRIET, daughter of Mr. RICHARD WOOD, of Hope Mill.

March 21st, at St. John's Chapel, Halifax, by the Rev. James Pridie, JOHN EDWARDS, Esq., to Mrs. SAMUEL WOOD, both of that town.

DEATHS.

March 8th, by an accidental explosion when superintending the blasting of the roof of a tree with gunpowder, First Lieutenant WILLIAM CUNNINGHAM SYMONDS, of the Royal Marines, youngest son of Rear-Admiral SYMONDS, of Yeaton-house, near Lynton, Hants.

March 12th, at King's College, Aberdeen, in the 87th year of his age, Dr. HUGH MACPHERSON, Sub-Principal, and for 61 years Professor in that University.

March 13th, at Netley, Salop, JOHN THOMAS HOPE, Esq., in the 93rd year of his age.

March 14th, at Newbury, the infant daughter of Rev. JOSEPH DREW.

March 15th, at his house, the Castle Priory, Wallingford, aged 72, THOMAS DUFFIELD, Esq., the High Steward of the borough.

March 15th, at his residence, Wanstead, Essex, of a sudden attack of bronchitis, HENRY CHAPMAN, Esq., in his 57th year.

March 18th, at 25, Hill-street, the Earl of Lichfield, aged 59.

March 19th, much lamented by a considerable number of friends, Mrs. NOCUTT, the beloved wife of Mr. GEORGE NOCUTT, of Hatfield, and daughter of Captain BEECROFT, R.N., of the same place, aged 38.

March 19th, at Prince's-street, Mile-end, Mr. PETER REDFORD, aged 87.

Gleanings.

The propagation of salmon by artificial means in Ireland and elsewhere has been very successful.

The report of the Tynemouth Commission informs us that more than one-seventh of the electors are publicans.

A report is current that M. Mazzini is preparing to show himself among his partisans in Italy.

Sir Charles Napier is reported to have betted, that he would take Cronstadt in twenty-four hours, and be at St. Petersburg in five days after.

Young women are now engaged in working the electric telegraphs at the Liverpool, Manchester, and London stations.

The *Edinburgh Review* is just 50 years old; the *Quarterly*, 44; the *New Monthly Magazine*, 33; *Blackwood*, 38; and *Fraser*, 24.

Sir David Brewster has been elected one of the twelve members of the Italian Society of Sciences of Modena, in succession to the late M. Arago.

The Roman Catholic brotherhood of St. Paul's have taken a census of three houses on Saffron-hill, and found there were 215 persons residing in them.

The editors, writers, printers, and compositors of the *Liberia Herald*, a journal published in the rising negro Republic, are all negroes.

Amongst the petitions presented to the House of Commons, on Monday, was one from a Mr. Basset, "for prohibiting the destruction of blackbirds and thrushes within the United Kingdom."

According to "Cheshire's Results of the Census," the number of British subjects resident or travelling in Russia on the night of the recent census of Great Britain was 2,783.

A writer in the "Home Companion" describes the government of Russia as "an absolute monarchy kept in check by regicide." [A feeble version of Chateaubriand's epigrammatic saying, as applied to Turkey.—"A despotism tempered by assassination," but at least as applicable to Russia as to Turkey.]

The only unpopular article of diet on board the ships just arrived at Malta was the pudding, and to the unprejudiced observer it did appear that there was some reason in the remark of an old "salt,"—"Well, I'm blowed if them plums is within hail of one another!"

An extensive firm, not very far from this town, have, we (*Preston Pilot*) are informed, posted the following notice in their offices:—"The young men employed in this establishment are requested not to wear the moustache during business hours."

A patent for the manufacture of paper from wood-fibre has been lately taken out by Messrs. Watt and Burgess. It is said to be equal to any writing-paper now selling at 7d. per pound. The cost of production is stated to be somewhat under £25 a ton, more than £12 less than the price of rag-paper now in use.

The Rev. E. G. Wood, at Fairfield, Indiana, after praying for the General Government, prayed for the Governor of the State, and then for the Legislature:—"And the Lord have mercy on our Legislators. Spare their lives until they may return to their homes; and put it in the hearts of the people to keep them there, and return men of temperate habits and sentiments, who will do some good."

Among the mourners that followed the late Captain Sir Everard Home, R.N., to his grave in New Zealand, was a favourite Newfoundland dog, which plunged over the side of the vessel, and followed in the wake of the boats conveying the corpse and the mourners. The animal entered the church with the coffin, remained quiet whilst the service was performed, and afterwards resumed his place in the return procession.

A correspondent of the *Brattleborough Eagle* tells the following story of a witness upon a liquor trial:—"How do you know it was brandy?" asked the lawyer. "Well," replied the ready witness, "I smelled of it first, and then I welcomed about a glass of it." The unexpected verb wholly upset the gravity of the court, jury, and miscellaneous people; and they were not at all assisted in recovering their equanimity by his further testimony that the man who bought the Brandy drank of it himself "till he was quite salubrious."

Messrs. Candler and Burgess, two members of the Society of Friends, have published an account of a visit to Brazil. The present Emperor, they say, is a fine tall young man, twenty-six years of age; having what is termed the Braganza countenance, on the whole somewhat handsome. He speaks several languages, among them the English, which he appears well to understand. As to the Slave Trade,—very much to their surprise they found it not only entirely suppressed, but, to use their own language, "detested" by the native Brazilians. Every one they met "agreed in assuring us that the African Slave Trade to Brazil is honestly suppressed;" and greatly, as it seems, to the advantage of the Brazilians.

Some misconception appears to have arisen with respect to the "water towers" at Sydenham Palace. These towers are only connected with the fountains of the two lower basins; and their defective structure will only affect those fountains. The water display will still be very fine; as the whole of the fountains in the building, six large groups on the terrace garden, a large circular basin in the centre and its two companions, have tanks of their own, and will be ready in ample time. This upper range will play a larger quantity of water every day than the *grandes eaux* at Versailles do once or twice in the year. The lower fountains will all the year round play to the height of 235 feet, in shape something like unto the steeple of Bow Church, and far surpassing Versailles.

One evening John Clerk (Lord Eldin) had been dipping rather too deeply in the convivial bowl with a friend in Queen-street, and on emerging into the open air his intellect became a considerable degree confused, and not being able to distinguish objects with any degree of minuteness or certainty, he thought himself in a fair way of losing the road to his own house in Picardy-place. In this perplexity he espied some one coming towards him, whom he stopped with this query, "D'ye ken whaur John Clerk bides?" "What's the use o' you speering that question?" said the man, "you're John Clerk himsel." "I ken that," answered John, "but it's no himsel that's wanted, it's his house."

The *Stamford Mercury* reports that a Methodist preacher, who came the other day to officiate at a village in Lincolnshire, had been led to believe by his brethren that the inhabitants were very stingy towards their spiritual providers. Accordingly at the conclusion of the service he thus addressed the congregation:—"My brethren, I have been given to understand that there is a very current notion entertained by many in this village that the local preacher or prayer-leader whose appointment may be fixed in this village is in his nature something entirely spiritual, or in other words, an angel: now I am determined to give you to understand that such a notion is all moonshine, and that we are really men of the same flesh and blood with yourselves, and, like yourselves, subject to all the ills that flesh is heir to; and that you may see how entirely wrong you have been in entertaining such a notion, I will show you what I have in my hand, and what I shall do with it." Here the preacher produced a large piece of bread and meat, and began to eat.

Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

CITY, Tuesday evening.

The English stock market has been heavy during the past week. The unfavourable Bank returns, the tightness of the Money Market, the continued drain of gold, and the reported rejection of the ultimatum by the Czar, have all operated unfavourably. On Saturday there was a fall of $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in the Funds. On Monday there was a further fall of $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Railway shares were especially heavy. Money is in very active demand, and tight at 5 per cent. and upwards. To-day the Funds again show a downward tendency, and the market is very unsettled. Consols are fully $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. lower than at the opening. The Unfunded Debt is also exceedingly flat, Exchequer bills having gone down to 3s. to 8s prem., and India Bonds to par to 4s. prem.

The Bank of England returns last issued exhibited a further decline in the stock of bullion by £512,000, which, with the falling off in the previous week, made a total decrease of nearly £900,000. During the past week there is believed to have been a further decline of about half a million; and which, therefore, would make a drain, in the short space of three weeks, of £1,500,000.

The imports of the precious metals during the past week have been rather more than for some time past, the total being about £400,000; but the exports have been more than double; the ascertained shipments alone amount to £730,000. The shipments of gold to the Continent, and France in particular, continue extremely active.

The new French loan, so favourably received in Paris, has somewhat gone out of favour in London. The nominal premium is declining fast, and there is less disposition manifested to touch it here, owing to the uncertainty of obtaining any allotment even after

the deposit of a much larger amount of money than may be necessary for the quantity granted.

In the foreign market Russian Bonds continue to decline. They have recently fallen nearly 5 per cent. Russian Five per Cents were to-day 85½ to 85¾; the Four-and-a-half per Cents, 76. Mexican Stock has rallied a little, the bargains marking 23½ to 23¾; Chilean Bonds, 101 102; ditto Three per Cents, 72; Ecuador, 34; Greek (red) Bonds, 6½; Venezuela, 26; Dutch Two-and-a-half, 54½.

Railway shares have also experienced a considerable decline, to the extent of from £1 to £3 to-day. Some few stocks have rallied a little, but the general tone of the market is heavy. Midlands have been done at 57½ to 57¾. North Westerns have fallen to 97½. South Westerns have ranged from 77½ to 76½. Caledonians are now 52½; Great Northern, 88½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 61½ to 61¾; South Eastern, 60; Berwicks, 63; York and North Midland, 44½ to 45; French shares were 6s. lower, and Foreign shares generally dull; Grand Trunk of Canada, £10 paid, were at 6½ to 6¾; the £30 Debentures, 26½; Madras shares, 15s. dis.; East Indian, 2½ prem.

Quartz Rock shares advanced ½. Bank of Australasia was lower, at 76 77. Australian Agricultural Company's shares declined to 37½. Crystal Palace to 1 and 1½ prem. British American Land Company, 75.

The accounts of the state of trade in the manufacturing towns during the past week contain nothing of importance. The Manchester market has been very flat, the home and foreign demand being alike inactive. At Birmingham, however, trade continues without the slightest check, and nothing but the feeling of caution on the commencement of war prevents a further immediate rise in all descriptions of iron goods. Employment is general, and the tendency of wages still upward. The supply of coal, although better than a month or two back, is still far below the requirements of the neighbourhood. From Nottingham the report shows that the rally of last week has not been supported, owing chiefly to the absence of foreign orders. The purchases for the United States are unusually limited, but as the stocks on hand are low in that country, and the importing houses at New York are believed to have held back, under the mistaken impression that the war would cause large consignments to be sent over at a sacrifice, there is a probability of a good demand at a later period. In the woollen districts business has rather increased, but the Irish linen-markets have been heavy.

The departures from the port of London for the Australian colonies during the past week show a decrease. They have comprised altogether ten vessels—four to Adelaide, with an aggregate burden of 1,743 tons; three to Sydney, with an aggregate burden of 1,831 tons; one to Port Phillip, of 922 tons; one to New Zealand, of 460 tons; and one to Launceston, of 813 tons. Their total capacity was consequently 4,769 tons. The rates of freight exhibit a slight decline, the advices received to-day not being considered satisfactory.

In the general business of the port of London during the past week there has been considerable activity. The number of ships reported inward was 216, being an increase of 54 over the previous week. Of grain there were reported 67,064 quarters, including 37,352 quarters of wheat; of flour, 19,346 barrels and 11,496 sacks; of tea, 38,788 packages; and of sugar, 2,046 hhds., 1,241 cases, 1,238 casks, and 117,698 bags. The number of vessels cleared outward was 113, being 10 over the previous week. Of those 18 were in ballast, and 10, as above stated, for the Australian colonies.

On Monday the failure of Messrs. B. Elkin and Sons, a very old and respectable mercantile firm, chiefly engaged with the West Indies and Australia, was announced. Their liabilities amount to £140,000, and the disaster is the result of large advances to correspondents in Demerara, Jamaica, &c., and not of any losses in their Australian business, which is understood to have been good. The nominal assets are ample, taking the debts due to the house at their full amount; but it is feared that the value of these is very doubtful, and that the ultimate settlement will therefore prove unfavourable.

PROGRESS OF THE STOCKS DURING THE WEEK.

| | Wed. | Thurs. | Friday | Saturday | Monday | Tuesday |
|----------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|----------|--------|---------|
| 3 per Ct. Consols | 91 ½ | 90 ½ | 90 ½ | 90 ½ | 90 ½ | 89 ½ |
| Consols for Account | 91 ½ | 91 ½ | 90 ½ | 90 ½ | 90 ½ | 89 ½ |
| 3 per Cent. Red New 3½ per Cent. | — | 92 ½ | — | 91 ½ | — | — |
| Annuities | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| India Stock | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Bank Stock | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Exchequer Bills | 13 pm. | 8 pm. | 8 pm. | 10 pm. | 7 pm. | 7 pm. |
| India Bonds | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Long Annuities | — | — | — | — | — | — |

The Gazette.

Friday, March 17th, 1854.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending on Saturday, the 11th day of March, 1854.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

| | | | |
|--------------|------------|---------------------|------------|
| Notes issued | 28,641,070 | Government Debt | 11,015,100 |
| | | Other Securities | 2,984,900 |
| | | Gold Coin & Bullion | 14,641,070 |
| | | Silver Bullion | — |

228,641,070

228,641,070

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

| | | | |
|---------------------------|------------|-----------------------|------------|
| Proprietors' Capital | 14,553,000 | Government Securities | — |
| Reserve | 3,718,228 | Dead Weight Annuity | — |
| Public Deposits | 2,899,997 | Other Securities | 11,747,728 |
| Other Deposits | 10,897,396 | Notes | 7,626,655 |
| Seven-Day and other Bills | 1,136,432 | Gold and Silver Coin | 755,615 |

223,184,653

223,184,653

Dated the 16th day of March, 1854.

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

This "Gazette" contains a notice that the following places have been duly registered for the solemnization of marriages therein:— Wesleyan Association Chapel, Tavistock, Devonshire. Ebenezer Chapel, Bethnal-green.

BANKRUPTCY.

COLLIER, T., High Holborn, licensed victualler, March 28, at 12, and April 27, at half-past 11, at the Court of Bankruptcy. Sols. Messrs. Martineau and Reid, Raymond-buildings, Gray's Inn; off. assign. Mr. Bell, Coleman-street-buildings.

DISCOLL, J., Cardiff, potato merchant, March 29 and April 26, at 11, at the Bristol District Court. Sol. Mr. Bird, Cardiff; off. assign. Mr. Miller, Bristol.

DUNCAN, W., Kingston-upon-Hull, grocer, April 5 and May 2, at 12, at the Leeds District Court. Sols. Messrs. Richardson and Lee, Kingston-upon-Hull; off. assign. Mr. Carrick, Hull.

FERGUSON, C., Hitchin, draper, March 24, and April 28, at 1, at the Bankruptcy Court. Sols. Messrs. Turner and Turner, Aldermanbury, and Messrs. Longmore, Sworder, and Longmore, Hertford; off. assign. Mr. Whitmore, Basinghall-street.

FORBES, W., Birmingham, stationer and bookbinder, April 5 and 26, at 12, at the Birmingham District Court. Sol. Mr. Hodgson, Birmingham; off. assign. Mr. Bittleston, Birmingham.

FRATER, J., Manchester, brewer, March 28, and April 25, at 12, at the Manchester District Court. Sols. Messrs. Cobbett and Wheeler, Manchester; off. assign. Mr. Pott, Bolton-le-Moors.

HUGHES, J., Birkenhead, coal merchant, March 30, and April 28, at 11, at the Liverpool District Court. Sol. Mr. Hough, Carlisle; off. assign. Mr. Bird, Liverpool.

HUNTER, J., Fazely, Stafford, tape and lace manufacturer, April 1, and April 28, at 10, at the Birmingham District Court. Sol. Mr. Hodgson, Birmingham; off. assign. Mr. Bittleston, Birmingham.

JONES, W., Liverpool, slater and plasterer, March 30, and April 28, at 11, at the Liverpool District Court. Sol. Mr. Conway, Liverpool; off. assign. Mr. Bird, Liverpool.

MATTHIAS, J., Swansea, linen-draper, March 29, and April 26, at 11, at the Bristol District Court. Sols. Messrs. Leman and Humphreys, Bristol; off. assign. Mr. Miller, Bristol.

MOSS, T. B., 12, Little Tower-street, City, tea and colonial dealer, March 24, and April 28, at half-past 12, at the Court of Bankruptcy. Sol. Mr. Moss, Queen-street, Cheapside; off. assign. Mr. Cannan, Aldermanbury.

PARKES, M., Golden-square, printer, April 4, at 1, and May 2, at 12, at the Court of Bankruptcy. Sol. Mr. Cole, Tokenhouse-yard; off. assign. Mr. Lee, Moorgate-street.

SHANNON, J., Liverpool, linen-draper, March 29, and April 19, at 11, at the Liverpool District Court. Sol. Mr. Bretherton, Liverpool; off. assign. Mr. Cazenove, Liverpool.

SYMMONS, J., Bristol, cut nail and shoe heel manufacturer, March 30, and April 28, at 11, at the Bristol District Court. Sol. Mr. Crosby, Bristol; off. assign. Mr. Hutton, Bristol.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

T. GATELY, iron merchant, Derby.

DECLARATIONS OF DIVIDENDS.

W. RICHARDSON, Lombard-street, merchant—first div. of 2s. 2d., Thursday 23, and three following Thursdays, at Mr. Stansfield's, Basinghall-street.

H. BOLT, Birmingham, silversmith—first div. of 3d., any Thursday, at Mr. Christie's, Birmingham.

W. TOMLINSON, Manchester, publican—first and final div. of 4s. 8d., any Tuesday, at Hermandan's, Manchester.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

R. WILSON, calenderer, March 27, at the Globe Hotel, Glasgow.

J. STEWART, jun., writer, Glasgow, March 30, at the Globe Hotel, Glasgow.

P. M'LAUREN and COMPANY, ship carpenters, Glasgow, March 28, at the Globe Hotel, Glasgow.

Tuesday, March 21th, 1854.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

JOHN SINGLE, Bath-street, East India-road, Popbar, builder.

JAMES FIELDING, Glossop, Derbyshire, cotton spinner.

BANKRUPTCY.

SEAGER, J., Ramsgate, draper, to surrender March 31, May 5, at 1, at the Bankruptcy Court. Sols. Messrs. Reed, Langford, and Marsden, Friday-street, Cheapside; and Messrs. Sale, Worthington, and Shipman, Manchester; official assignee, Mr. Witmore, Basinghall-street.

PALMER, H. C., Stones'-end, Borough, hatter, March 30, at half-past 12, April 27, at 11, at the Bankruptcy Court. Sol. Mr. Pulman, Bucklersbury; official assignee, Mr. Johnson, Basinghall-street.

REINHARD, C. E., Rochester, coal merchant, March 30, at 11, May 4, at 1, at the Bankruptcy Court. Sol. Mr. Stronghill, Coleman-street; official assignee, Mr. Johnson, Basinghall-street.

STEVENS, S., Charlwood-place, Pimlico, builder, April 4, at 2, May 2, at 1, at the Bankruptcy Court. Sol. Mr. Pike, Old Burlington-street; official assignee, Mr. Lee, Moorgate-street.

EMERY, P., Brighton, licensed victualler, April 1, at 12, May 13, at 1, at the Bankruptcy Court. Sols. Messrs. Barron and Clarke, Bloomsbury-square; official assignee, Mr. Pennell, Guildhall-chambers, Basinghall-street.

SHOVE, F., Eltham, Kent, grocer, April 4, at 1, May 2, at 12, at the Bankruptcy Court. Sol. Mr. Long, Blackfriars-road; off. assign. Mr. Stansfield.

STRAVE, I., Coventry, riband manufacturer, April 5 and April 27, at 12, at the Birmingham District Court of Bankruptcy. Sols. Messrs. Dewes and Son, Coventry; Messrs. Mottram and Knight, Birmingham; off. assign. Mr. Whitmore, Birmingham.

WADDINGTON, J., Knottingly, Yorkshire, shoemaker, April 3, at 11, May 1, at 12, at the Leeds Court of Bankruptcy. Sols. Mr. Horner, Pontefract; Messrs. Bond and Barwick, Leeds; off. assign. Mr. Hope, Leeds.

CRAWFORD, W., Wakefield, draper, April 3, at 12, May 1, at 11, at the Leeds District Court of Bankruptcy. Sols. Messrs. Hampson and Sons, Manchester; off. assign. Mr. Hope, Leeds.

HAVELOCK, G. and M. B. Rosson, Monkwearmouth, Durham, shipbuilders, March 31, and April 27, at 12, at the Newcastle-upon-Tyne District Court of Bankruptcy. Sols. Messrs. Pringle, Shum, Wilson, and Crossman, King's-Road, Bedford-row; Messrs. Kidson and Dixon, Sunderland; off. assign. Mr. Baker.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

MCDONAGALL, J., Glasgow, drysalter, April 3, at 12 o'clock at the Globe Hotel, Glasgow.

MACAULAY, C., Greenock, clothier, April 1, at 12 o'clock at the White Hart Inn, Greenock.

DECLARATIONS OF DIVIDENDS.

W. and F. MARWING, and J. L. ANDERSON, late of New Bank-buildings, West India merchants—sixth and final div. of ½d., on Wednesday and Friday, the 22nd and 24th, at Messrs. Oliverson, Lave, and Peachey's, Frederick's-place, Old Jewry.

C. F. OPPENHEIM, George-street, Minorities, shipowner—first div. of 2s. 11d., on Saturday, the 25th, and three subsequent Saturdays, at Mr. Edwards's, Samsbrook-court, Basinghall-street.

A. HARDWICK, Windsor, draper—first div. of 6s. 8d., on Saturday, the 25th and three subsequent Saturdays, at Mr. Edwards's, Samsbrook-court, Basinghall-street.

V. ELKINS, Southampton-place, Euston-square, coach maker—second and final div. of 2d., on Wednesday next, and two subsequent Wednesdays, at Mr. Lee's, Moorgate-street.

H. BANKS, Bethnal-green-road, carpenter—first div. of 3s. 6d., on Wednesday next, and two subsequent Wednesdays, at Mr. Lee's, Moorgate-street.

E. HAPPEL, Stamford, draper—first div. of 1s. 9d., on Saturday, the 25th, and three subsequent Saturdays, at Mr. Harris's Nottingham.

G. and J. BARTON, Manchester, copper roller manufacturers—further div. of 8d., on Tuesday, April 4, or any subsequent Tuesday, at Mr. Fraser's Manchester.

J. MILNES, Rochdale, woolstapler—first div. of 3d., on Tuesday, April 4, or any subsequent Tuesday, at Mr. Pott's Manchester.

G. N. MANZAYMO, Manchester, merchant—first div. of 4s. 8d., on Tuesday, April 4, or any subsequent Tuesday, at Mr. Pott's Manchester.

E. BROOKFIELD, Woodcote, farmer—first div. of 3d., any Monday at Mr. Bird's, Liverpool.

POWER and WALLACE, Liverpool, merchants—second div. of 3d., any Monday, at Mr. Bird's, Liverpool.

J. MERRITT, Tattenhall, malster—fourth div. of 1s., any Monday, at Mr. Bird's, Liverpool.

J. TOMKINSON, Liverpool and Runcorn, stone mason—fourth div. of 3d., and first, second, and third div. of 2s. 4d., 1s. 3d., and 9d., on new profits, on Wednesday, April 5, or any subsequent Wednesday, at Mr. Morgan's, Liverpool.

J. THOMPSON, Altonby, Cumberland, common brewer—first and final div. of 3s. 3d., any Saturday, at Mr. Baker's, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

S. and W. HARTLEY, Tadcaster, common brewers—final div. of 7d., any Tuesday, at Mr. Hope's, Leeds.

Markets.

MARK-LANE, MONDAY, March 20, 1854.

There was a moderate quantity of English Wheat offering this morning, which was taken off by the millers at fully 3s. per qr. under last Monday's quotations. The arrivals of foreign Wheat and Flour during the past week have been large; the former met with rather more enquiry to-day at 3s. less than on Monday last, but in Flour there was but little doing, although offered at the reduction of Friday. Barley dull sale and 1s. cheaper. Beans and Peas slow sale at declining prices. With Oats we were more liberally supplied, and there being several vessels close at hand from the near Continental Ports, prices were fully 1s. per qr. lower to-day than on Monday last, but at this reduction there was a pretty free sale. Tares 3s. to 4s. per qr. lower. Cloverseeds sell slowly, and at rather lower rates. The current prices as under.

| BRITISH. | | | | FOREIGN. | | | |
|---|----|----|--|-----------------------------|----|----|--|
| Wheat— | s. | d. | | Wheat— | s. | d. | |
| Essex and Kent, Red | 66 | 80 | | Dantzic | 82 | 86 | |
| Ditto White | 66 | 82 | | Konigsberg, Red | 76 | 82 | |
| Linc., Norfolk, & Yorkshire Red | 74 | 84 | | Pomeranian, Red | 76 | 82 | |
| Northumb. & Scotch | 74 | 84 | | Rostock | 76 | 82 | |
| Rye | 48 | 52 | | Danish & Holstein | 72 | 78 | |
| Barley malting (new) | 33 | 42 | | East Friesland | 68 | 78 | |
| Distilling | 34 | 36 | | Petersburg | 68 | 70 | |
| Malt (pale) | 60 | 70 | | Riga and Archangel | 52 | 58 | |
| Beans, Mazagan | 38 | 40 | | Polish Oats | 68 | 74 | |
| Ticks | 40 | 42 | | Marianopol | 70 | 74 | |
| Harrow | 42 | 54 | | Taganrog | 62 | 64 | |
| Pigeon | 52 | 56 | | Egyptian | 46 | 48 | |
| Peas, White | 52 | 54 | | American (U.S.) | 78 | 86 | |
| Grey | 46 | 48 | | Barley Pomeranian | 32 | 34 | |
| Maple | 46 | 48 | | Konigsberg | 32 | 34 | |
| Boilers | 56 | 68 | | Danish | 34 | 40 | |
| Tares (English) | 60 | 70 | | East Friesland | 36 | 32 | |
| Foreign | 66 | 68 | | Egyptian | 26 | 28 | |
| Oats (English feed) | 26 | 30 | | Odessa | 28 | 30 | |
| Flour, town made, per sack, of 280 lbs. | 64 | 68 | | Beans— | | | |
| Linseed, English | 58 | 60 | | Horse | 35 | 38 | |
| Baltic | 60 | 62 | | Pigeon | 40 | 46 | |
| Black Sea | 62 | 64 | | Egyptian | 44 | 46 | |
| Hempseed | 36 | 40 | | Peas, White | 59 | 54 | |
| Canaryseed | 52 | 56 | | Oats— | | | |
| Cloverseed per cwt. of 112 lbs. English | 54 | 56 | | Dutch | 22 | 29 | |
| German | 46 | 76 | | Jahde | 22 | 29 | |
| French | 42 | 82 | | Danish | 22 | 24 | |
| American | 44 | 50 | | Danish yellow feed | 25 | 29 | |
| Linseed Cakes £13 10 to £14 | | | | Swedish | 25 | 29 | |
| Rape Cake £6 10 to £7 per ton | | | | Petersburg | 27 | 29 | |
| Rapeseed £32 to £36 per last | | | | Flour, per bar. of 196 lbs. | | | |
| | | | | New York | 36 | 40 | |
| | | | | Spanish per sack | 56 | 60 | |
| | | | | Caraway Seed | 32 | 34 | |

BUTCHERS' MEAT, SMITHFIELD, MONDAY, MARCH 20.

To-day's market was very moderately supplied with foreign stock, amongst which were 90 Oxen from Spain. From our own grazing districts, the receipt of Beasts fresh up this morning were limited, and in very middling condition. The attendance of buyers being large, the Beef trade ruled active, at an advance in the quotations obtained on Monday last of 4d. per 8 lbs., and a good clearance was effected. The arrivals from Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire amounted to 1,900 Scots and short-horns; from other parts of England, 700 of various breeds; and from Scotland, 240 horned and polled Scots. There was a falling off in the supply of Sheep. All breeds commanded a steady, though not very brisk, demand, at 2d. per 8 lbs. more money. The best old Downs, in the wool, realized 5s. per 8 lbs.; out of the wool, 4s. 4d. per 8 lbs. The few Lambs in the market realized from 6s. to 6s. 8d. per 8 lbs. We were very scantily supplied with Calves, which moved off steadily, at full quotations. Pigs were dull, at late figures. The supply was small.

Per 8 lbs. to sink the offals.

| | s. | d. | s. | d. | | s. | d. | s. | d. |
|---------------------|----|----|----|----|---------------------|----|----|----|----|
| Coarse and inferior | 3 | 4 | 3 | 6 | Prime coarse wool- | 4 | 6 | 4 | 8 |
| Beasts | 3 | 4 | 3 | 6 | led Sheep | 4 | 6 | 4 | 8 |
| Second quality do. | 3 | 8 | 3 | 10 | Prime South Down | 4 | 10 | 5 | 0 |
| Prime large Oxen | 4 | 0 | 4 | 4 | Sheep | 4 | 10 | 5 | 0 |
| Prime Scots, &c. | 4 | 6 | 4 | 8 | Large coarse Calves | 4 | 6 | 5 | 2 |
| Coarse and inferior | 3 | 4 | 3 | 6 | Prime small do. | 5 | 4 | 5 | 8 |
| Sheep | 3 | 6 | 3 | 8 | Large Hogs | 3 | 0 | 4 | 2 |
| Second quality do. | 3 | 10 | 4 | 4 | Neat small Porks | 4 | 4 | 4 | 8 |

Suckling Calves 22s. to 29s.; and quarter-old store Pigs, 21s. to 27s. each.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, March 20.—These markets continue to be extensively supplied with both town and country-killed meat. Generally speaking, the demand is in a sluggish state, as follows:—

Per 8 lbs. by the carcass.

| | s. | d. | s. | d. | | s. | d. | s. | d. |
|-----------------|----|----|----|----|-----------------|----|----|----|----|
| Inferior Beef | 2 | 10 | 3 | 2 | Inferior Mutton | 3 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Middling do. | 3 | 4 | 3 | 6 | Middling do. | 3 | 6 | 4 | 0 |
| Prime large do. | 3 | 8 | 3 | 10 | Prime do. | 4 | 2 | 4 | 4 |
| Do. small do. | 3 | 10 | 4 | 0 | Veal | 4 | 0 | 5 | 4 |
| Large Pork | 3 | 4 | 4 | 2 | Small Pork | 4 | 4 | 4 | 8 |

BREAD. The prices of Wheatens Bread in the Metropolis are from 10½d. to 11½d.; and Household do., 8½d. to 10d. per 4 lbs. loaf.

</

to 135s.; Irish whites, 100s. to 115s.; Foreign, do., 105s. to 115s. per ton.

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday, March 20.—During the past week a fair trade has been done in hops of good quality, at about last week's currency.

CHICORY, LONDON, Saturday, Mar. 18.—The supply of Chicory on offer is seasonably good; yet the demand is steady, and prices are well supported. The imports are 841 bags from Guernsey.

TALLOW, Monday, March 20.—The business doing in our market is very moderate, yet prices are well supported. P.Y.C. on the spot is quoted at 64., and for May and June 65s. per cwt. Town Tallow 62s. 6d. net cash; Rough Fat 3s. 5½d. per 8 lbs. Particulars of Tallow.

| | 1850. | 1851. | 1852. | 1853. | 1854. |
|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Stock | 33,147 | 37,416 | 45,143 | 35,090 | 35,483 |
| Price of Y.C. | 37s. 0d. to 39s. 6d. | 37s. 0d. to 39s. 6d. | 36s. 0d. to 38s. 6d. | 44s. 6d. to 46s. 0d. | 64s. 0d. to 66s. 0d. |
| Delivery last week | 2,226 | 1,814 | 1,938 | 2,005 | 1,407 |
| Ditto from 1st June | 80,155 | 81,172 | 92,487 | 84,841 | 82,921 |
| Arrival last week | — | 994 | 232 | 726 | 2,605 |
| Ditto from 1st June | 87,831 | 93,129 | 100,796 | 79,303 | 95,089 |
| Price of Town | 39s. 6d. | 41s. 6d. | 38s. 0d. | 45s. 9d. | 64s. 9d. |

COVENT GARDEN, Saturday, March 18.—The supply of Vegetables is steadily improving, and most kinds of Fruit are also sufficient for the demand. Late Grapes are, however, getting scarce. Pears are now confined to Beurre Rance, Easter Beurre, and Ne Plus Meuris. Among dessert Apples there are still good samples of Ribston Pippin and Old Nonpareil. Chestnuts are plentiful as are also Cucumbers, at 1s. 6d. to 3s. each. In Potatoes, the market is well supplied, but trade is heavy. Asparagus continues to come in at 8s. and 10s. per hundred, and Sea-kale at 1s. and 2s. per punnet. Carrots and Turnips are cheaper. Some good Broccoli is still arriving from Cornwall, and also from the Continent. Among Salad Vegetables are Radishes at 6d. to 9d. per bunch, and Cabbage Lettuces at 3d. to 4d. each. There are also excellent Carrots and Globe Artichokes. Mushrooms are scarce. Cut flowers consist of Camellias, Azaleas, Cyclamens, Heath Hyacinths, Tulips, and Roses.

COALS, Monday.—Market without alteration from last day. Stewarts, 20s. 6d.—Hettions, 20s. 6d.—Lambtons, 20s.—Hartlepool, 20.—Haswell, 20s. 6d.—Belmont, 18s. 6d.—Wylam, 18s.—Hartley, 20s.—R. Hettions, 19s. 9d.—Gosforth, 18s. 6d.—fresh arrivals, 47.

WOOL, City, Monday.—The market has been steady. Accounts of December 5, from Sydney, report washed samples as being scarce. The imports into London last week were 3,754 bales, of which 373 were from Germany, 438 from Moreton Bay, 905 from Odessa, 697 from Spain, 837 from Sydney, and the rest from Port Philip, Bombay, &c. Since our last report, there has been a fair average business doing in fine English wool, the supply of which continues moderate, at full prices. All low and inferior parcels are much neglected, yet we have no change to notice in their value.

| | s. d. | s. d. |
|------------------------------|-------|-------|
| South Down Hoggets | 1 4 | 1 6 |
| Half-bred Ditto | 1 3½ | 1 5 |
| Ewes clothing | 1 2 | 1 3½ |
| Kent Fleeces | 1 2½ | 1 3½ |
| Combing Skins | 0 11 | 1 3 |
| Flannel Wool | 0 11½ | 1 3 |
| Blanket Wool | 0 8 | 1 1 |
| Leicester Fleeces | 1 1½ | 1 3 |

COTTON, LIVERPOOL, March 20.—The market continues heavy, and prices of all descriptions of cotton are unchanged. The sales to-day amount to upwards of 5,000 bales; 500 of which have been taken for export—all American. In addition to the latter description, 700 Surats have sold 3d. to 5d.; 260 Bahia, 6½d.; 200 Egyptian, 6d. to 8½d., and 50 Sea Islands, 1s. to 1s. 8d. per lb imports 10,000 bales.

PRODUCE MARKET.

MINING-LANE, March 21.

SUGAR.—The market opened very dull to-day, and but a portion of the public sales found buyers, although importers accepted a shade lower prices; 381 hhds. West India sold, chiefly consisting of Barbadoes, in public sale, 32s. 6d. to 40s. 9,200 bags Mauritius were offered in public sale, about 6,000 found buyers; prices occasionally were 6d. lower, 32s. to 39. 1,600 bags Bengal offered, about 500 were bought in, the remainder sold. Benares about maintained Friday's prices, 38s. 6d. to 39s.; date, 29s. 6d. to 34s. 6d. 3,000 bags Madras were also offered, about one-third sold at a slight decline, the remainder bought in, 28s. to 32s. The refined market dull, but prices are unaltered; grocery lumps, 44s. 6d. to 50s.

COFFEE.—150 casks plantation Ceylon sold steady in public sale at previous rates, 55s. to 60s. 6d.; 350 bags native Ceylon were offered and bought in at 47s.; a cargo of Rio reported sold by private contract at 50s., deliverable in the Mediterranean.

TEA.—Prices are unaltered, but the demand continues limited.

RICE has been out of demand to-day.

SALTPETRE.—1,000 bags sold steadily in public sale, at full prices; refraction 8½, 36s. to 38s. 6d.; for one lot, fine, refraction 8½, 37s. was paid.

COCHINEAL.—Mexican black sold in public sale at 2d. to 4d. decline, 3s. 1½d. to 4s. 1d. Honduras silver sold at a decline 1d. to 7d., 3s. 9d. to 4s. 4d.

HEMP.—100 tons Manila sold, to arrive, £61; Petersburg, clean, sold at £60, which was yesterday's price.

TALLOW.—A further advance of 6d. has been paid to-day, and now quoted 65s.

RUM.—The demand continues dull.

CORRUM.—No sales reported.

In other articles no material alteration.

Advertisements.

EDUCATION FOR YOUNG LADIES.
King-street, Leicester.—The MISSES MIAL, whose School has been established for many years, will have VACANCIES for BOARDERS after the present quarter. The advantages enjoyed by their Pupils are of a superior order, affording them a liberal and solid education; the strictest attention being paid to the formation of their character, and to their moral and religious training. The course of instruction pursued in this Establishment is based upon the principle of natural and careful cultivation, rather than of constrained exertion—of developing the characteristic capabilities of the children under their care, rendering their studies a pleasure rather than a task.

TERMS, THIRTY-FIVE GUINEAS PER ANNUM.
The best masters are engaged for French, German, Drawing, Music, Singing, and Deportment.

References:—Rev. G. Legge, LL.D., Rev. J. P. Mursell, and Rev. J. Smedmore, Leicester; Rev. J. Sutcliffe, Manchester; Mr. Gunderland, Ashton-under-Lyne; and their brothers, Rev. J. G. Mial, Bradford, Rev. G. R. Mial, Ullenhurst, and E. Mial, M.P., Editor of the Nonconformist, Sydenham-park.

The next Quarter will commence on the 3rd of April.

EDUCATION, 6, Mornington-crescent, Regent's-park.—The MISSES SMITH inform their friends that they will be happy to fill up a few VACANCIES at the commencement of the Quarter, Saturday, March 25th. A limited number only of Pupils is received, and every attention is paid to their personal comfort, as well as to their mental improvement. Unexceptional references to Ministers and to Parents of Pupils. Prospectuses on application to the MISSES SMITH.

MILL-HILL-SCHOOL, Hendon, Middlesex.

Head Master, Rev. PHILIP SMITH, B.A.
Applications for the admission of pupils, and for preliminary information, may be made to the Head Master, or to the Secretary.
By order of the Committee,
ALGERNON WELLS, Secretary.

Old Jewry-chambers.

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This Society offers a secure and safe mode for the investment of large or small sums of money, the security for which is unquestionable, the funds being all advanced upon Freehold, Copyhold, or Leasehold Property.

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SHARES.—There are three descriptions of subscribing shares, namely:—£30, £50, £100. A £30 share requires the payment of 4s. per month for ten years. A £50 share of 5s. per month for 12½ years, or of 10s. for 7½. A £100 share of 10s. per month for 12½ years, or of 20s. for 7½.

Five per cent. compound interest allowed upon withdrawal. Members can pay up Shares of £10, £25, £30, £50, and £100, in full, and receive interest thereon half-yearly, with a Share of the Profits in addition at the end of each year, which makes the interest now payable at 5½ per cent.

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DEPOSITORS.—Persons may deposit sums of money of not less than £1 at a time, on which interest will be paid at the rate of Four per Cent. per annum.

Depositors may withdraw their money at any time, on giving the proper notice.

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The Society purchases freehold land in large estates, and, consequently, at an immensely lower rate than a small plot of the same land can be obtained. This land is allotted among the holders of £30 shares.

Shares may be taken, Prospectuses had, and information obtained at the Office of the Society, between the hours of ten and four, and on Wednesdays from ten to eight.

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RENTS COLLECTED, HOUSES REPAIRED, or Repairing Leases taken, by an experienced Builder. References and security given.—Apply to C. B., Nonconformist Office, 19, Fleet-street, London.

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Messrs. S. ALLSOPP and SONS beg to inform the TRADE that they are now registering orders for the March Brewings of their PALE ALE in Casks of 18 Gallons and upwards, at the BREWERY, Burton-on-Trent, and at the undermentioned Branch Establishments:—

LONDON, at 61, King William-street, City;
LIVERPOOL, at Cook-street;
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GLASGOW, at 115, St. Vincent-street;
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SOUTH WALES, at 13, King-street, Bristol.

Messrs. ALLSOPP and SONS take the opportunity of announcing to PRIVATE FAMILIES that their ALES, so strongly recommended by the medical profession, may be procured in DRAUGHT and BOTTLES, GENUINE, from all the most RESPECTABLE LICENSED VICTUALLERS, on "ALLSOPP'S PALE ALE" being specially asked for.

When in bottle, the genuineness of the label can be ascertained by its having "ALLSOPP and SONS" written across it.

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—OFFICE, HALL, SHOP, and PUBLIC DIALS, THREE GUINEAS; to Strike, Half-a-Guinea extra. Only best Work. Constantly renewed stock of elegant Drawing-room Clocks, under glass shades, from 37s. 6d.

Orders received for the erection of Public, Church, or Turret Clocks, of any size or complication, in any part of the Kingdom.

PUBLIC NOTICE is invited to the character of the stock at the well-known Manufactory. The wholesale trade is now declined, to allow of undivided attention to the retail friends of the Establishment, who will henceforth be supplied at the trade prices, careful regard being observed in all transactions to the high and long maintained reputation of the house.

Best Work Only—Trade Prices—Delivered Free.

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Yours very faithfully,

Henry Stebbins

Personage, St. James's, Hampstead-road.

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